
By: Prince George's County Delegation

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 1996

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prince George's County - Alcoholic Beverages**
3 **(Visible Access)**
4 **PG 309-96**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring in Prince George's County that alcoholic beverages
6 licensed premises provide visible access into the premises from the exterior;
7 clarifying language and structure; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in
8 Prince George's County.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages
11 Section 12-217
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages**

17 12-217.

18 (A) [In] THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IN Prince George's County.

19 (B) (1) [a] A holder of any license authorizing the sale of alcoholic beverages at
20 retail may not sell any alcoholic beverages except for cash and a manufacturer or
21 wholesaler may not sell any beer to any retail dealer except for cash on delivery. Cash
22 deposits for returnable containers shall be required at the time of delivery or sale.

23 (2) For the purposes of this section, in addition to currency, checks accepted
24 for payment which are not postdated and are promptly deposited for collection by the
25 licensee shall also be deemed to be cash.

26 (3) [No] A suit or action ex contractu to enforce or collect any claim for
27 credit extended, or to enforce payment of any check given for payment for alcoholic
28 beverages in violation of this section, [shall] MAY NOT be maintained in this State. Any
29 check given in payment for alcoholic beverages to any licensee coming under the terms of

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1 this section, which shall be returned uncollected, shall be deemed prima facie evidence in
2 any civil case of a violation of this section.

3 (4) Any licensee, manufacturer, or wholesaler violating the provisions of this
4 section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be subject to
5 a fine of not more than \$500 or to imprisonment for not more than 6 months[in the
6 House of Correction or jail,] or [fined and imprisoned] BOTH.

7 (C) THE HOLDER OF A CLASS A, B, OR D ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSE
8 SHALL PROVIDE VISIBLE ACCESS INTO THE LICENSED PREMISES FROM THE
9 EXTERIOR OF THE LICENSED PREMISES IN ORDER TO INSURE THE SAFETY AND
10 WELL-BEING OF PATRONS AND EMPLOYEES. A LIQUOR INSPECTOR OR OTHER LAW
11 ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SHALL HAVE A CLEAR VIEW INTO A LICENSED PREMISES
12 BEFORE ENTERING THE PREMISES. THE BOARD MAY REQUEST THAT LICENSEES
13 REMOVE WINDOW SIGNS THAT ARE DEEMED BY THE BOARD TO BE EXCESSIVE OR
14 OBSTRUCTIVE TO VIEW.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
16 October 1, 1996.