

Chapter 443

(House Bill 1091)

AN ACT concerning

Howard County – Alcoholic Beverages – Beer Festivals

Ho. Co. 09-14

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Howard County Board of License Commissioners to issue a special beer festival license; specifying that a special beer festival license authorizes the holder to display and sell at retail beer for consumption on and off the licensed premises on certain days and hours; requiring an applicant for a special beer festival license to be the holder of a certain license; establishing a license fee; requiring the Howard County Board of License Commissioners to approve one weekend for the festival, approve a certain premises in Howard County for the festival, and ensure that the primary focus of the festival is the promotion of Maryland beer; allowing a certain person to hold a special beer festival license in addition to another license; requiring the Howard County Board of License Commissioners to adopt certain regulations; defining a certain term; and generally relating to beer festivals in Howard County.

BY adding to

Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages

Section 8-808

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2011 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages

8-808.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “BOARD” MEANS THE HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS.

(B) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A SPECIAL BEER FESTIVAL LICENSE.

(C) A SPECIAL BEER FESTIVAL LICENSE ENTITLES THE HOLDER TO DISPLAY AND SELL AT RETAIL BEER FOR CONSUMPTION ON OR OFF THE

LICENSED PREMISES ON THE DAYS AND FOR THE HOURS DESIGNATED FOR THE SPECIAL BEER FESTIVAL IN HOWARD COUNTY.

(D) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE, AN APPLICANT FOR A SPECIAL BEER FESTIVAL LICENSE SHALL BE THE HOLDER OF A CURRENT RETAIL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSE ISSUED IN THE STATE, A CLASS 5 BREWERY LICENSE, ~~OR~~ A CLASS 7 MICRO-BREWERY LICENSE, OR A CLASS 8 FARM BREWERY LICENSE.

(E) THE LICENSE FEE IS \$50 FOR A 1-DAY OR 2-DAY FESTIVAL.

(F) THE BOARD SHALL:

(1) APPROVE ONE WEEKEND FOR THE SPECIAL BEER FESTIVAL;

(2) APPROVE AN UNLICENSED PREMISES IN HOWARD COUNTY FOR THE SPECIAL BEER FESTIVAL; AND

(3) ENSURE THAT THE PRIMARY FOCUS OF THE SPECIAL BEER FESTIVAL IS THE PROMOTION OF MARYLAND BEER.

(G) THIS SECTION DOES NOT PROHIBIT THE LICENSEE FROM HOLDING ANOTHER ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSE OF A DIFFERENT CLASS OR NATURE.

(H) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2014.

Approved by the Governor, May 5, 2014.