

SENATE BILL 911

A1, J1

0lr1059
CF HB 900

By: ~~Senator Kramer~~ **Senators Kramer and Bailey**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted with floor amendments

Read second time: March 6, 2020

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Alcohol and Tobacco Commission – Clarifications**

3 FOR the purpose of clarifying the authority, powers, and duties of officers and employees
4 of the Field Enforcement Division in the Office of the Executive Director of the
5 Alcohol and Tobacco Commission over certain matters; substituting references to the
6 Division and the Commission, respectively, for references to the Comptroller in
7 certain provisions relating to alcohol and tobacco; authorizing the officers and
8 employees to make certain cooperative arrangements with the Office of the
9 Comptroller; authorizing the Division to recommend certain changes to improve the
10 administration of certain provisions; authorizing the Executive Director to delegate
11 certain duties to certain persons; requiring the Executive Director to maintain
12 certain records; providing that certain seizures must be reported to the Division;
13 requiring the Commission to provide certain notice of certain seized contraband;
14 providing that the Commission may take certain actions; requiring certain property
15 seizures and destruction to be reported to the Executive Director; providing for the
16 inspection and search of certain property by certain officers; providing for the
17 seizure, forfeiture, and disposition of certain property; providing for the issuance of
18 certain summonses by the Commission; prohibiting the violation of certain
19 regulations the Commission adopts; providing that authorized members of the
20 Division are police officers and law enforcement officers for certain purposes;
21 providing that the Comptroller shall administer the laws relating to the alcoholic
22 beverages tax and the tobacco tax in cooperation with the Executive Director;
23 requiring the Comptroller to adopt certain regulations to administer certain tax laws
24 in cooperation with the Executive Director; requiring the Comptroller to provide
25 certain tax stamps and certificates and adopt certain regulations in cooperation with

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 the Executive Director; providing that certain employees of the Field Enforcement
 2 Bureau of the Office of the Comptroller have certain authority in cooperation with
 3 certain employees of the Division; requiring the Division to advise certain officers of
 4 certain matters; authorizing the Division to work cooperatively with certain officers
 5 on certain matters; requiring the Executive Director to report each year to the
 6 General Assembly on certain matters; exempting certain employees of the Division
 7 from certain overtime provisions; providing for the inclusion of certain officers
 8 employed by the Division in the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System; altering
 9 the date as of which certain persons are to be transferred to the Office of the
 10 Executive Director; making a technical ~~correction~~ corrections; and generally relating
 11 to the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 13 Article – Alcoholic Beverages
 14 Section 1–304, 1–313 through 1–315, ~~and~~ 1–317, 4–109(b)(2), 6–101(c)(2), 6–103,
 15 6–105(b)(3), 6–107, 6–108(b), 6–202(a), 6–203, 6–204(a), 6–205(b),
 16 6–308(a)(3), and 6–328(a)(4)
 17 Annotated Code of Maryland
 18 (2016 Volume and 2019 Supplement)
 19 (As enacted by Chapter 12 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2019)

20 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 21 Article – Criminal Procedure
 22 Section 2–101
 23 Annotated Code of Maryland
 24 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

25 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 26 Article – Public Safety
 27 Section 3–101(e)(1) and 3–201
 28 Annotated Code of Maryland
 29 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

30 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 31 Article – State Personnel and Pensions
 32 Section 8–301 and 26–201(a)(2)
 33 Annotated Code of Maryland
 34 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

35 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 36 Article – Tax – General
 37 Section 2–102, 2–103, 2–105, and 2–107
 38 Annotated Code of Maryland
 39 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

40 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 41 Chapter 12 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2019

1 Section 7

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

4 **Article – Alcoholic Beverages**

5 1–304.

6 (a) A member of the Commission may not:

7 (1) have a direct or indirect financial interest, ownership, or management,
8 including holding any stocks, bonds, or other similar financial interests, in the alcohol[,] **OR**
9 **OR** tobacco[, or motor fuel] industries;

10 (2) have an official relationship to a person who holds a license or permit
11 under this article or Title 16, Title 16.5, or Title 16.7 of the Business Regulation Article;

12 (3) be an elected official;

13 (4) receive or share in, directly or indirectly, the receipts or proceeds of any
14 activities conducted in the alcohol or tobacco industries;

15 (5) have a beneficial interest in any contract for the manufacture or sale of
16 any device or product or the provision of any independent consulting services in connection
17 with a holder of a license or permit issued under this article or Title 16, Title 16.5, or Title
18 16.7 of the Business Regulation Article; or

19 (6) accept a contribution of money or property worth at least \$100 from an
20 entity or individual associated with the alcohol or tobacco industries with respect to the
21 regulation of alcohol or tobacco.

22 (b) A member of the Commission shall file a financial disclosure statement with
23 the State Ethics Commission in accordance with Title 5, Subtitle 6 of the General
24 Provisions Article.

25 1–313.

26 (a) There is a Field Enforcement Division in the Office of the Executive Director.

27 (b) (1) The Field Enforcement Division may employ officers and employees as
28 provided in the State budget.

29 (2) The officers and employees of the Field Enforcement Division:

30 (i) shall be sworn police officers;

1 (ii) shall have the powers, duties, and responsibilities of peace
2 officers to enforce the provisions of this article relating to:

3 1. the unlawful importation of alcoholic beverages **AND**
4 **TOBACCO** into the State;

5 2. the unlawful manufacture of alcoholic beverages **AND**
6 **TOBACCO** in the State;

7 3. the transportation and distribution throughout the State
8 of alcoholic beverages **AND TOBACCO** that are manufactured illegally and on which any
9 alcoholic beverages taxes **OR TOBACCO TAXES** imposed by the State are due and unpaid;
10 and

11 4. the manufacture, sale, barter, transportation,
12 distribution, or other form of owning, handling, or dispersing alcoholic beverages **OR**
13 **TOBACCO** by any person not licensed or authorized under this article [or], provisions of the
14 Tax – General Article relating to alcoholic beverages **OR TOBACCO, OR PROVISIONS OF**
15 **THE BUSINESS REGULATION ARTICLE RELATING TO TOBACCO**; and

16 (iii) may make cooperative arrangements for and work and cooperate
17 with **THE OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER**, local State's Attorneys, sheriffs, bailiffs,
18 police, and other prosecuting and peace officers to enforce this article.

19 (c) The Field Enforcement Division:

20 (1) shall consult with and advise the local State's Attorneys and other law
21 enforcement officials and police officers regarding enforcement problems in their respective
22 jurisdictions; and

23 (2) may recommend changes to improve the administration of this article
24 [and], provisions of the Tax – General Article relating to alcoholic beverages **AND**
25 **TOBACCO, AND PROVISIONS OF THE BUSINESS REGULATION ARTICLE RELATING TO**
26 **TOBACCO**.

27 1–314.

28 The Executive Director may delegate authority under this article [and], provisions
29 of the Tax – General Article relating to alcoholic beverages **AND TOBACCO, AND**
30 **PROVISIONS OF THE BUSINESS REGULATION ARTICLE RELATING TO TOBACCO** to the
31 Division director to issue or refuse to issue licenses and permits.

32 1–315.

33 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the Executive Director
34 may delegate authority to conduct hearings on violations of this article or of any regulations

1 adopted under this article [or], the provisions of the Tax – General Article relating to
2 alcoholic beverages **OR TOBACCO, OR THE PROVISIONS OF THE BUSINESS**
3 **REGULATION ARTICLE RELATING TO TOBACCO** to the Division director or any other
4 employee of the Executive Director’s office.

5 (b) The Division director or any other employee of the Executive Director’s office
6 delegated authority to conduct hearings under subsection (a) of this section:

7 (1) may not impose a penalty provided for under this article or a provision
8 of the Tax – General Article relating to alcoholic beverages; and

9 (2) shall report the findings and recommendations to the Executive
10 Director to take the action that the Executive Director considers appropriate.

11 1–317.

12 (a) The Executive Director shall:

13 (1) maintain a record of:

14 (i) each license issued or approved under this article **AND TITLES**
15 **16, 16.5, AND 16.7 OF THE BUSINESS REGULATION ARTICLE**; and

16 (ii) any revocation, suspension, or cancellation of a license and any
17 restriction imposed on a license with a brief explanation of the reason for the action; and

18 (2) allow any person to inspect the records at the Office of the Executive
19 Director during regular business hours.

20 (b) The records of licenses required under subsection (a) of this section and any
21 indices or dockets created to maintain the records:

22 (1) shall be retained for the later to occur of:

23 (i) 3 years after the date of the last record entry; or

24 (ii) the date on which all audit requirements have been complied
25 with; and

26 (2) may be destroyed after:

27 (i) the retention period in item (1) of this subsection has expired;
28 and

29 (ii) Title 10, Subtitle 6, Part III of the State Government Article has
30 been complied with.

1 4-109.

2 (b) The application shall also include a statement executed and acknowledged by
 3 the owner of the location where the business is to be conducted that:

4 (2) authorizes a warrantless inspection and search of the premises at any
 5 time in any part of the building in which the business is to be conducted by:

6 (i) the Comptroller;

7 (ii) THE COMMISSION;

8 (III) the local licensing board and its authorized agents and
 9 employees; or

10 ~~[(iii)]~~ (IV) a peace officer of the county or municipality where the
 11 business is to be located.

12 6-101.

13 (c) (2) (i) A vehicle, a vessel, or an aircraft that is seized as contraband is
 14 forfeited unless a protest is filed within 30 days after the publication under subparagraph
 15 (ii) of this paragraph.

16 (ii) The Comptroller OR THE COMMISSION, AS APPROPRIATE:

17 1. if possible, shall notify the registered owner of the
 18 property of the seizure; and

19 2. shall publish a notice:

20 A. in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where
 21 the vehicle, vessel, or aircraft was seized; and

22 B. informing interested persons of the seizure and the right
 23 to file a protest.

24 6-103.

25 A vehicle, a vessel, or an aircraft used with the express or implied knowledge or
 26 consent of its owner to violate a provision of this article relating to the unlawful
 27 manufacture of alcoholic beverages or to transport, store, or hide unlawful alcoholic
 28 beverages:

29 (1) is contraband; and

30 (2) may be seized by:

1 (I) the Comptroller or the Comptroller's authorized enforcement
2 officers; OR

3 (II) THE COMMISSION OR THE COMMISSION'S AUTHORIZED
4 ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS; and

5 (3) MAY BE forfeited in accordance with this subtitle.

6 6-105.

7 (b) (3) If the court does not determine that a lienholder had knowledge, but
8 the property is otherwise subject to forfeiture:

9 (i) the property shall be forfeited; and

10 (ii) the Comptroller OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
11 COMMISSION, as the Comptroller OR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AS APPROPRIATE,
12 considers in the best interest of the State, may:

13 1. pay the outstanding indebtedness secured by the lien and
14 keep the property; or

15 2. deliver the property to the lienholder.

16 6-107.

17 (a) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, forfeited property shall be
18 retained for official use, sold, or otherwise disposed of by:

19 (1) the Comptroller OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
20 COMMISSION, AS APPROPRIATE, if the property was seized by State officers; or

21 (2) if the property was not seized by State officers:

22 (i) the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City; or

23 (ii) the board of county commissioners or the county council of the
24 county in which the property was seized.

25 (b) The Comptroller, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COMMISSION, the
26 Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City, or the board of county commissioners or county
27 council in the county where the property was seized shall retain or dispose of the property
28 in the way it considers to be in the best public interest.

1 (c) Illicit alcoholic beverages shall be destroyed and may not be returned or given
2 to any person or disposed of in any other manner.

3 6-108.

4 (b) The officer shall report the seizure and destruction conducted under this
5 section to the Field Enforcement Division of the [Comptroller's office] COMMISSION.

6 6-202.

7 (a) A building, vehicle, or premises where alcoholic beverages are authorized to
8 be kept, transported, manufactured, or sold under a license or permit may be inspected and
9 searched, without a warrant, by:

10 (1) the Comptroller or an authorized deputy, inspector, or clerk of the
11 Comptroller;

12 (2) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COMMISSION OR AN
13 AUTHORIZED DEPUTY, INSPECTOR, OR CLERK OF THE COMMISSION;

14 (3) the local licensing board of the county or city where the place of business
15 is located or an authorized agent or employee of the local licensing board; and

16 [(3)] (4) a peace officer of the county or city where the place of business is
17 located.

18 6-203.

19 To prevent and detect fraud by manufacturers, wholesalers, and retail dealers, the
20 [Comptroller] COMMISSION, the local licensing board, and an authorized deputy or
21 inspector of the [Comptroller] COMMISSION or the local licensing board:

22 (1) may use hydrometers, saccharometers, weighing and gauging
23 instruments, or other means, records, or devices to ascertain the quantity or quality of
24 alcohol in an alcoholic beverage as they consider necessary; and

25 (2) may adopt rules and regulations to establish a uniform system of
26 inspection, marking, and gauging of alcoholic beverages.

27 6-204.

28 (a) For a hearing or inquiry that the [Comptroller] COMMISSION or a local
29 licensing board may hold or make, the [Comptroller] COMMISSION or a local licensing
30 board may issue summonses for witnesses and administer oaths or affirmations to the
31 witnesses.

1 6-205.

2 (b) The powers and duties conferred on the Comptroller, THE COMMISSION, or
3 ANY other State official by this article do not relieve local officials from the duty of
4 enforcement or prosecution.

5 6-308.

6 (a) This section does not apply to a Class 4 limited winery that brings wine or
7 pomace brandy manufactured on its licensed premises onto a retail licensed premises if:

8 (3) the limited winery or winery trade association complies with any
9 regulations that the [Comptroller] COMMISSION adopts relating to on-premises
10 promotions and product sampling;

11 6-328.

12 (a) A person may not:

13 (4) violate a regulation that the Comptroller OR THE COMMISSION adopts
14 under this article or the Tax – General Article.

15 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

16 2-101.

17 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

18 (b) “Emergency” means a sudden or unexpected happening or an unforeseen
19 combination of circumstances that calls for immediate action to protect the health, safety,
20 welfare, or property of a person from actual or threatened harm or from an unlawful act.

21 (c) “Police officer” means a person who in an official capacity is authorized by law
22 to make arrests and is:

23 (1) a member of the Department of State Police;

24 (2) a member of the Police Department of Baltimore City;

25 (3) a member of the Baltimore City School Police Force;

26 (4) a member of the police department, bureau, or force of a county;

27 (5) a member of the police department, bureau, or force of a municipal
28 corporation;

- 1 (6) a member of the Maryland Transit Administration Police Force or
2 Maryland Transportation Authority Police Force;
- 3 (7) a member of the University System of Maryland Police Force or Morgan
4 State University Police Force;
- 5 (8) a special police officer who is appointed to enforce the law and maintain
6 order on or protect property of the State or any of its units;
- 7 (9) a member of the Maryland Capitol Police of the Department of General
8 Services;
- 9 (10) the sheriff of a county whose usual duties include the making of arrests;
- 10 (11) a regularly employed deputy sheriff of a county who is compensated by
11 the county and whose usual duties include the making of arrests;
- 12 (12) a member of the Natural Resources Police Force of the Department of
13 Natural Resources;
- 14 (13) an authorized employee of the Field Enforcement Bureau of the
15 Comptroller's Office;
- 16 (14) **AN AUTHORIZED MEMBER OF THE FIELD ENFORCEMENT**
17 **DIVISION OF THE ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO COMMISSION;**
- 18 (15) a member of the Maryland–National Capital Park and Planning
19 Commission Park Police;
- 20 [(15)] (16) a member of the Housing Authority of Baltimore City Police
21 Force;
- 22 [(16)] (17) a member of the Crofton Police Department;
- 23 [(17)] (18) a member of the WMATA Metro Transit Police, subject to the
24 jurisdictional limitations under Article XVI, § 76 of the Washington Metropolitan Area
25 Transit Authority Compact, which is codified at § 10–204 of the Transportation Article;
- 26 [(18)] (19) a member of the Intelligence and Investigative Division of the
27 Department;
- 28 [(19)] (20) a member of the State Forest and Park Service Police Force of
29 the Department of Natural Resources;
- 30 [(20)] (21) a member of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission
31 Police Force;

1 9. the Maryland Transportation Authority Police;

2 10. the police forces of the Department of Transportation;

3 11. the police forces of the Department of Natural Resources;

4 12. the Field Enforcement Bureau of the Comptroller's Office;

5 13. THE FIELD ENFORCEMENT DIVISION OF THE
6 ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO COMMISSION;

7 14. the Housing Authority of Baltimore City Police Force;

8 [14.] 15. the Crofton Police Department;

9 [15.] 16. the police force of the Maryland Department of
10 Health;

11 [16.] 17. the police force of the Maryland Capitol Police of the
12 Department of General Services;

13 [17.] 18. the police forces of the University System of
14 Maryland;

15 [18.] 19. the police force of Morgan State University;

16 [19.] 20. the office of State Fire Marshal;

17 [20.] 21. the Ocean Pines Police Department;

18 [21.] 22. the police force of the Baltimore City Community
19 College;

20 [22.] 23. the police force of the Hagerstown Community
21 College;

22 [23.] 24. the Internal Investigation Unit of the Department
23 of Public Safety and Correctional Services;

24 [24.] 25. the Warrant Apprehension Unit of the Division of
25 Parole and Probation in the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services;

26 [25.] 26. the police force of the Anne Arundel Community
27 College; or

1 [26.] 27. the police department of the Johns Hopkins
2 University established in accordance with Title 24, Subtitle 12 of the Education Article.

3 3–201.

4 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

5 (b) “Commission” means the Maryland Police Training and Standards
6 Commission.

7 (c) “Department” means the Department of Public Safety and Correctional
8 Services.

9 (d) (1) “Law enforcement agency” means a governmental police force, sheriff’s
10 office, or security force or law enforcement organization of the State, a county, or a
11 municipal corporation that by statute, ordinance, or common law is authorized to enforce
12 the general criminal laws of the State.

13 (2) “Law enforcement agency” does not include members of the Maryland
14 National Guard who:

15 (i) are under the control and jurisdiction of the Military
16 Department;

17 (ii) are assigned to the military property designated as the Martin
18 State Airport; and

19 (iii) are charged with exercising police powers in and for the Martin
20 State Airport.

21 (e) “Motorcycle profiling” means the arbitrary use of the fact that an individual
22 rides a motorcycle or wears motorcycle–related clothing or paraphernalia as a factor in
23 deciding to stop, question, take enforcement action, arrest, or search the individual or
24 vehicle.

25 (f) (1) “Police officer” means an individual who:

26 (i) is authorized to enforce the general criminal laws of the State;
27 and

28 (ii) is a member of one of the following law enforcement agencies:

29 1. the Department of State Police;

30 2. the Police Department of Baltimore City;

31 3. the police department, bureau, or force of a county;

1 (2) "Police officer" includes:

2 (i) a member of the Field Enforcement Bureau of the Comptroller's
3 Office;

4 (ii) **A MEMBER OF THE FIELD ENFORCEMENT DIVISION OF THE**
5 **ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO COMMISSION;**

6 (iii) the State Fire Marshal or a deputy State fire marshal;

7 [(iii)] (iv) an investigator of the Intelligence and Investigative
8 Division of the Department;

9 [(iv)] (v) a Montgomery County fire and explosive investigator as
10 defined in § 2-208.1 of the Criminal Procedure Article;

11 [(v)] (vi) an Anne Arundel County or City of Annapolis fire and
12 explosive investigator as defined in § 2-208.2 of the Criminal Procedure Article;

13 [(vi)] (vii) a Prince George's County fire and explosive investigator
14 as defined in § 2-208.3 of the Criminal Procedure Article;

15 [(vii)] (viii) a Worcester County fire and explosive investigator as
16 defined in § 2-208.4 of the Criminal Procedure Article;

17 [(viii)] (ix) a City of Hagerstown fire and explosive investigator as
18 defined in § 2-208.5 of the Criminal Procedure Article; and

19 [(ix)] (x) a Howard County fire and explosive investigator as
20 defined in § 2-208.6 of the Criminal Procedure Article.

21 (3) "Police officer" does not include:

22 (i) an individual who serves as a police officer only because the
23 individual occupies another office or position;

24 (ii) a sheriff, the Secretary of State Police, a commissioner of police,
25 a deputy or assistant commissioner of police, a chief of police, a deputy or assistant chief of
26 police, or another individual with an equivalent title who is appointed or employed by a
27 government to exercise equivalent supervisory authority; or

28 (iii) a member of the Maryland National Guard who:

29 1. is under the control and jurisdiction of the Military
30 Department;

- 1 (2) [the alcoholic beverage tax;
- 2 (3)] the boxing and wrestling tax;
- 3 [[4] (3) the income tax;
- 4 [(5) (4) the Maryland estate tax;
- 5 [(6) (5) the Maryland generation–skipping transfer tax;
- 6 [(7) (6) the motor carrier tax;
- 7 [(8) (7) the motor fuel tax;
- 8 [(9) (8) the sales and use tax; AND
- 9 [(10) (9) the savings and loan association franchise tax]; and
- 10 (11) the tobacco tax].

11 **(B) IN COOPERATION WITH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ALCOHOL**
 12 **AND TOBACCO COMMISSION, AND IN ADDITION TO THE DUTIES SET FORTH**
 13 **ELSEWHERE IN THIS ARTICLE AND IN OTHER ARTICLES OF THE CODE, THE**
 14 **COMPTROLLER SHALL ADMINISTER THE LAWS THAT RELATE TO:**

15 **(1) THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE TAX; AND**

16 **(2) THE TOBACCO TAX.**

17 2–103.

18 The Comptroller shall adopt reasonable regulations:

19 **(1) to administer the provisions of the tax laws listed in [§ 2–102] §**
 20 **2–102(A) of this subtitle; AND**

21 **(2) IN COOPERATION WITH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE**
 22 **ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO COMMISSION, TO ADMINISTER THE PROVISIONS OF THE**
 23 **TAX LAWS LISTED IN § 2–102(B) OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

24 2–105.

25 (a) The Comptroller shall design the license form required for:

1 (1) the motor fuel tax laws; and

2 (2) the sales and use tax laws.

3 (b) The Comptroller:

4 (1) shall determine:

5 (i) the design of tax stamps and certificates required for the
6 alcoholic beverage tax and for the tobacco tax; and

7 (ii) the form of any other evidence of tax payment; and

8 (2) may adopt any other method or device that the Comptroller considers
9 necessary to:

10 (i) prevent fraud or evasion of the alcoholic beverage tax; or

11 (ii) comply with any restrictions that the federal government
12 imposes on alcoholic beverages during a war or an emergency.

13 (c) **[The] IN COOPERATION WITH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE**
14 **ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO COMMISSION, THE** Comptroller:

15 (1) shall provide tax stamps and certificates to indicate that the alcoholic
16 beverage tax or tobacco tax has been paid; and

17 (2) may adopt reasonable regulations to prevent abuse but ensure the
18 adequate availability of tax stamps and certificates, including regulations that:

19 (i) limit excessive disbursement of tax stamps and certificates; and

20 (ii) require proof of need for tax stamps and certificates.

21 2-107.

22 (a) Authorized employees of the Field Enforcement Bureau of the Comptroller's
23 Office:

24 (1) shall be individuals who are sworn police officers; and

25 (2) have all the powers, duties, and responsibilities of a peace officer for the
26 purpose of enforcing the laws pertaining to:

27 (i) admissions and amusement tax;

28 (ii) [alcoholic beverage tax;

1 (iii)] income tax;

2 [(iv)] (III) motor carrier tax;

3 [(v)] (IV) motor fuel and lubricants;

4 [(vi)] (V) motor fuel tax;

5 [(vii)] (VI) sales and use tax;

6 [(viii) tobacco tax; and]

7 [(ix)] (VII) transient vendors within the meaning of Title 17, Subtitle
8 20A of the Business Regulation Article; AND

9 (VIII) IN COOPERATION WITH THE AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES OF
10 THE FIELD ENFORCEMENT DIVISION OF THE ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO
11 COMMISSION:

12 1. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE TAX; AND

13 2. TOBACCO TAX.

14 (b) (1) The Department of State Police shall help the Field Enforcement
15 Bureau in enforcing the motor carrier tax, motor fuel tax and motor fuel and lubricants
16 laws.

17 (2) The Comptroller shall pay the salaries and expenses of all Department
18 of State Police staff assigned to the Field Enforcement Bureau.

19 (c) (1) (i) Except for the Sheriff, constables and bailiffs of Baltimore
20 County, each law enforcement officer shall enforce the alcoholic beverage tax and tobacco
21 tax laws.

22 (ii) A State's Attorney or other prosecutor may prosecute alleged
23 violations of the alcoholic beverage tax or tobacco tax laws.

24 (2) The Field Enforcement Bureau OF THE COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE
25 AND THE FIELD ENFORCEMENT DIVISION OF THE ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO
26 COMMISSION:

27 (i) shall advise a State's Attorney and law enforcement officers
28 about enforcement problems; and

1 (ii) otherwise may work cooperatively with law enforcement officers
2 and prosecutors to carry out the duties of the unit.

3 (3) This subsection does not restrict the appropriation of money by a
4 political subdivision of the State to aid in the enforcement of the alcoholic beverage tax and
5 tobacco tax laws.

6 (d) (1) Each unit of the State government shall cooperate with the
7 Comptroller's Office by making available, on request, any information in the unit's
8 possession as may be of assistance in the administration and enforcement of the motor
9 carrier tax, motor fuel tax, and motor fuel and lubricants laws.

10 (2) The Field Enforcement Bureau shall cooperate with and help the
11 federal government, other states, and local governments and law enforcement personnel of
12 those jurisdictions to enforce the motor carrier tax, motor fuel tax, and motor fuel and
13 lubricants laws.

14 (e) On or before October 1 each year, the [Comptroller's Office] **EXECUTIVE**
15 **DIRECTOR OF THE ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO COMMISSION** shall report to the General
16 Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, on:

17 (1) the aggregate number of licensed tobacco retailers that committed a
18 violation of § 10-107 of the Criminal Law Article and the aggregate number of minors who
19 committed a violation of [§ 10-108] **§ 10-107** of the Criminal Law Article during the
20 reporting period;

21 (2) the number of prior violations for licensed tobacco retailers and minors
22 that committed a violation during the reporting period; and

23 (3) the subsequent action taken by the [Comptroller's Office] **EXECUTIVE**
24 **DIRECTOR** against each violator and, for each action taken, the number of violations
25 committed by the violator.

26 Chapter 12 of the Acts of 2019

27 SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That all persons who, as of [June
28 30] **MAY 31**, 2020, are employees in budgeted positions of the Office of the Comptroller and
29 whose positions are transferred to the Office of the Executive Director of the Alcohol and
30 Tobacco Commission as provided by this Act are hereby transferred to the Office of the
31 Executive Director of the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission without any change or loss of
32 rights pay, working conditions, benefits, rights, or status, and shall retain any merit system
33 and retirement status they may have on the date of transfer.

34 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
35 1, 2020.