
By: **Delegate Edwards**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 1998

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Garrett County - Alcoholic Beverages - Sales to Minors and Intoxicated**
3 **Persons**

4 FOR the purpose of specifying that in Garrett County the granting of probation before
5 judgment to a licensee or an employee of the licensee for violating the law
6 against selling alcoholic beverages to a minor or intoxicated person does not bar
7 the Board of License Commissioners from proceeding administratively against
8 the licensee for the violation; and generally relating to the sale of alcoholic
9 beverages to minors or intoxicated persons in Garrett County.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages
12 Section 12-108(a)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages
17 Section 12-108(f)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

22 **Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages**

23 12-108.

24 (a) (1) A licensee licensed under this article, or any employee of the licensee,
25 may not sell or furnish any alcoholic beverages at any time to a person under 21 years
26 of age:

27 (i) For the underage person's own use or for the use of any other
28 person; or

1 (ii) To any person who, at the time of the sale, or delivery, is visibly
2 under the influence of any alcoholic beverage.

3 (2) Any licensee or any employee of the licensee who is charged with a
4 violation of this subsection shall receive a summons to appear in court on a certain
5 day to answer the charges placed against that person. The person charged may not be
6 required to post bail bond pending trial in any court of this State.

7 (3) (i) A licensee or employee of the licensee violating any of the
8 provisions of this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, suffers
9 the penalties provided by § 16-503 of this article.

10 (ii) A licensee or employee of the licensee who is charged with
11 selling or furnishing any alcoholic beverages to a person under 21 years of age may
12 not be found guilty of a violation of this subsection, if the person establishes to the
13 satisfaction of the jury or the court sitting as a jury that the person used due caution
14 to establish that the person under 21 years of age was not, in fact, a person under 21
15 years of age if a nonresident of the State.

16 (iii) If the person is a resident of the State of Maryland, the licensee
17 or employee of the licensee may accept, as proof of a person's age, the display of the
18 person's driver's license or identification card as provided for in the Maryland Vehicle
19 Law.

20 (iv) Except as otherwise provided in this section, if any licensee or
21 employee of the licensee is found not guilty, or placed on probation without a verdict,
22 of any alleged violation of this subsection, this finding operates as a complete bar to
23 any proceeding by any alcoholic beverage law enforcement or licensing authorities
24 against the licensee on account of the alleged violation.

25 (f) (1) This subsection applies in the following jurisdictions:

26 (i) Dorchester County;

27 (II) GARRETT COUNTY;

28 [(ii)] (III) Howard County; and

29 [(iii)] (IV) Montgomery County.

30 (2) The granting of probation before judgment to a licensee or employee
31 of the licensee for violating subsection (a) of this section does not bar the Board of
32 License Commissioners from proceeding administratively against the licensee for the
33 violation.

34 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
35 October 1, 1998.