
By: **Delegates Conway and D. Hughes**

Introduced and read first time: March 4, 1998

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Wicomico County - Alcoholic Beverages - Restaurants and Taverns**

3 FOR the purpose of eliminating the requirement in Wicomico County that
4 restaurants and taverns that are licensed to serve alcoholic beverages must
5 have a certain amount of square feet per person; requiring restaurants and
6 taverns in Wicomico County to meet the minimum requirements of the a certain
7 fire code; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Wicomico County.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
9 Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages
10 Section 6-201(x)(1)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages
15 Section 6-201(x)(2) and 6-401(x)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

20 **Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages**

21 6-201.

22 (x) (1) This subsection applies only in Wicomico County.

23 (2) (i) This paragraph applies solely to hotel and restaurant licenses.

24 (ii) The annual license fee is:

25 1. For a restaurant - \$1,100; and

- 1 A. A bar where alcoholic beverages are served; and
- 2 B. An entertainment facility in the same room or area as the
3 bar, although entertainment need not be in progress.
- 4 2. The holder of this license may prohibit a person under the
5 legal drinking age in the State from entering the lounge area on the licensed premises
6 after 9:00 p.m., unless this person is accompanied by a parent or legal guardian who
7 is of the legal drinking age in the State.
- 8 3. The holder of this license may charge an entertainment
9 fee for each person who enters or who is present during the time live entertainment is
10 in progress in the lounge area.
- 11 6-401.
- 12 (x) (1) This subsection applies only in Wicomico County.
- 13 (2) The annual license fee is \$1,925.
- 14 (3) Any license issued under the provisions of this section is for 6 days.
- 15 (4) In order to qualify for a license under the provisions of this section
16 the premises that is the subject of the application shall have a minimum seating
17 capacity of 140 persons [based on a minimum of 15 square feet per person], not
18 including the bar area or dancing floor area, AND SHALL MEET THE MINIMUM
19 REQUIREMENTS OF THE FIRE CODE APPLICABLE TO THE JURISDICTION IN WHICH
20 THE PREMISES IS LOCATED.
- 21 (5) Alcoholic beverages sold under the provisions of this section shall be
22 consumed on the premises only.
- 23 (6) A person may not be on the premises who is under the legal age for
24 the consumption of beer and light wine in this State.
- 25 (7) All alcoholic beverages other than beer and light wine shall be
26 purchased from the Liquor Control Board for Wicomico County and shall be charged
27 not more than 15 percent above the wholesale cost to the dispensary.
- 28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
29 October 1, 1998.