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By: **Senator Craig**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 1998

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Harford County - Alcoholic Beverages - Chain Stores, Supermarkets, or**  
3 **Discount Houses**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing certain franchisees in Harford County who held a  
5 certain alcoholic beverages license at a certain time to regain that license under  
6 certain circumstances; providing that a certain restriction does not apply; and  
7 generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Harford County.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages  
10 Section 9-213(f) and (g)  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

15 **Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages**

16 9-213.

17 (f) (1) In Harford County an alcoholic [beverage] BEVERAGES license with  
18 an off-sale privilege of any class, except by way of renewal, may not be transferred, or  
19 issued to any business establishment of the type commonly known as chain stores,  
20 supermarkets, discount houses or their franchisors, and franchisees or  
21 concessionaires of every kind and description. Those establishments holding an  
22 alcoholic [beverage] BEVERAGES license on July 1, 1976 may continue to hold that  
23 license, or apply to upgrade to Class A-1 or A-2.

24 (2) (i) Those establishments [that held a license before July 1, 1976,]  
25 THAT HELD AN OFF-SALE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSE ISSUED BEFORE JULY 1,  
26 1975, and continued to hold [it] THE LICENSE AS OF JULY 1, 1996 [through 1990], but  
27 which license was later canceled OR VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED, may reacquire a  
28 license of the same class as though [they] IT WAS held [it] on or before [July 1,  
29 1976] JULY 1, 1975, notwithstanding any of the provisions TO THE CONTRARY of

1 [Article 2B] THIS ARTICLE and THE REGULATIONS OF THE HARFORD COUNTY  
2 BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS [if otherwise approved by the Board].

3 (ii) An application to reacquire a license under subparagraph (i) of  
4 this paragraph shall be submitted to the Harford County Board of License  
5 Commissioners by March 1, [1996] 1999.

6 (g) Except as otherwise provided in this article, in Harford County, the Board  
7 of License Commissioners may not issue or transfer to any neighborhood a Class A  
8 (off-sale) beer and wine license, a Class A-1 or Class A-2 (off-sale) beer, wine and  
9 liquor license, if any of these classes of licenses exist in that neighborhood. This  
10 restriction does not apply if the license is acquired pursuant to the provisions of  
11 subsection [(d)] (F)(2) of this section.

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