
By: **Somerset County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 26, 1999

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

Re-referred to: Economic Matters, March 4, 1999

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 16, 1999

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Somerset County - Alcoholic Beverages - Retail Sale of Wine**

3 FOR the purpose of adding Somerset County to provisions authorizing in specified
4 jurisdictions the issuance of a Class A light wine license for retail sale of wine;
5 authorizing certain wineries to provide wine samples to visitors in Somerset
6 County; establishing certain restrictions and limitations on wine samples
7 provided by a winery; and generally relating to the retail sale of wine in
8 Somerset County.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages
11 Section 4-201
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1998 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

14 BY adding to
15 Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages
16 Section 8-409.1
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (1998 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages

1
2 4-201.

3 (a) A Class A light wine license may be issued only in:

4 (1) Baltimore County;

5 (2) Carroll County;

6 (3) Dorchester County;

7 (4) Frederick County;

8 (5) Garrett County;

9 (6) Harford County;

10 (7) Montgomery County;

11 (8) SOMERSET COUNTY;

12 (9) Talbot County; and

13 [(9)] (10) Washington County.

14 (b) (1) The annual fee for this license is \$50.

15 (2) In Montgomery County the annual license fee is \$100.

16 (3) In Garrett County, the issuing fee for this license is \$50.

17 (c) A Class A light wine license may be issued by the license issuing authority
18 of the county in which the place of business is located to any holder of a Class 4
19 manufacturer's license.

20 (d) (1) The license authorizes the holder to keep for sale and to sell light
21 wines produced at the winery in any quantity to any consumer at retail at the place
22 described in the license. The light wine shall be delivered in a sealed package or
23 container which may not be opened or the contents consumed on the licensed
24 premises.

25 (2) In Montgomery County the licensee may not make more than 20,000
26 gallons of on-premises sales per year.

27 (e) (1) This subsection applies only in the following counties:

28 (i) Baltimore County;

29 (ii) Frederick County;

30 (iii) Garrett County;

- 1 (iv) Harford County;
- 2 (v) SOMERSET COUNTY;
- 3 (VI) Talbot County; and
- 4 [(vi)] (VII) Washington County.

5 (2) A Class A light wine license may be issued to a holder of a Class 3
6 manufacturer's license, who makes wine from agricultural products grown in
7 Maryland.

8 (3) Baltimore County wineries applying for a Class A/Class 3 license are
9 exempt from quotas established by the Baltimore County Liquor Board as to the
10 number of licenses in that election district.

11 8-409.1.

12 (A) IN SOMERSET COUNTY, THE HOLDER OF A CLASS 3 OR A CLASS 4 WINE
13 LICENSE MAY PROVIDE SAMPLES OF WINE TO PERSONS VISITING THE LICENSED
14 PREMISES.

15 (B) THE WINE SAMPLING PRIVILEGE AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SERVE A
16 MAXIMUM OF 2 OUNCES OF WINE FROM EACH GIVEN BRAND THAT IS
17 MANUFACTURED ON THE PREMISES TO EACH PERSON FOR SAMPLING PURPOSES.

18 (C) THE WINE SAMPLE SHALL BE SERVED AND CONSUMED ON THE PREMISES
19 WHERE THE WINE IS MANUFACTURED.

20 (D) THE HOLDER MAY NOT CHARGE FOR THE SAMPLING.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 October 1, 1999.