

---

By: **Somerset County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2002

Assigned to: Economic Matters

---

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Somerset County - Alcoholic Beverages - Sale and Distribution of Light**  
3 **Wine**

4 FOR the purpose of excluding in Somerset County the sale and distribution of light  
5 wine from certain control of the liquor control board of the County; making this  
6 Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to the sale and distribution of  
7 light wine in Somerset County.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages  
10 Section 15-204  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (1998 Replacement Volume and 2001 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 15-204.

17 (a) [The] EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, THE liquor  
18 control board in each county shall have an absolute monopoly of the sale and  
19 distribution of the particular alcoholic beverages which elsewhere in this subtitle it is  
20 empowered to sell.

21 (b) Provided, that in Montgomery County no person, firm, or corporation shall  
22 keep for sale any alcoholic beverage not purchased from the Department of Liquor  
23 Control for Montgomery County, provided, however, that nothing in this subsection  
24 shall apply to holders of Class F licenses, to the holder of a wholesaler's license or a  
25 beer wholesaler's license who shall not sell or deliver any alcoholic beverage in  
26 Montgomery County for resale except to a county liquor dispensary.

27 (C) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO THE SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF  
28 LIGHT WINE IN SOMERSET COUNTY.

1 (d) In Wicomico County, the county dispensaries shall make wholesale sales of  
2 all liquors at a markup of not more than 15 percent above the operating cost to the  
3 dispensary to any licensee of a Class A, B, or C beer, wine and liquor license.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an  
5 emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health  
6 or safety, has been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the  
7 members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take  
8 effect from the date it is enacted.