
By: **Delegates Elmore, Boteler, Bozman, Cane, DeBoy, Eckardt, Heller,
Kach, and McKee**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2003

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Somerset County - Ferry Companies - Franchises**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the County Commissioners of Somerset County to
4 grant one or more franchises for a ferry company to operate between Somerset
5 County and Reedville, Virginia, on a nonexclusive basis; requiring the County
6 Commissioners of Somerset County to review a certain proposed business and
7 financial plan at a certain time; authorizing the County Commissioners of
8 Somerset County to adopt certain regulations that are consistent with certain
9 regulations adopted by the Public Service Commission; prohibiting a ferry
10 company granted a franchise under this Act from conducting certain gambling
11 or gaming activities on any ferry that it operates under the franchise; and
12 generally relating to public transportation franchises in Somerset County.

13 BY adding to
14 Article 25 - County Commissioners
15 Section 3D(a)(3)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

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

20 **Article 25 - County Commissioners**

21 3D.

22 (a) (3) (I) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY ANTICOMPETITIVE EFFECT, THE
23 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SOMERSET COUNTY MAY GRANT ONE OR MORE
24 FRANCHISES FOR A FERRY COMPANY TO OPERATE BETWEEN SOMERSET COUNTY
25 AND REEDVILLE, VIRGINIA ON A NONEXCLUSIVE BASIS.

26 (II) BEFORE GRANTING A FRANCHISE FOR A FERRY COMPANY, THE
27 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SOMERSET COUNTY SHALL REVIEW THE PROPOSED
28 BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL PLAN FOR THE FERRY COMPANY.

1 (III) 1. THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SOMERSET COUNTY
2 MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

3 2. REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER THIS SUBPARAGRAPH
4 SHALL BE CONSISTENT WITH ANY REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE
5 COMMISSION THAT RELATE TO FERRY COMPANIES.

6 (IV) A FERRY COMPANY THAT IS GRANTED A FRANCHISE UNDER
7 THIS PARAGRAPH MAY NOT CONDUCT GAMBLING OR GAMING ACTIVITIES
8 PROHIBITED UNDER THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE ON ANY FERRY THAT IT OPERATES
9 UNDER THE FRANCHISE.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
11 effect October 1, 2003.