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By: **Harford County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2004

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Harford County - Light Wines Produced at Wineries - Retail Sale to**  
3 **Consumers**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing, in Harford County, a winery that has been issued a  
5 Class A light wine license to sell to consumers at retail at the winery light wines  
6 and certain other wines produced by the winery that are not in excess of a  
7 certain percentage of alcohol by volume; and generally relating to the sale of  
8 wine by wineries in Harford County.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages  
11 Section 4-201  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

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

16 **Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages**

17 4-201.

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

- 19 (1) Baltimore County;  
20 (2) Carroll County;  
21 (3) Dorchester County;  
22 (4) Frederick County;  
23 (5) Garrett County;  
24 (6) Harford County;

1 (7) Montgomery County;

2 (8) Somerset County;

3 (9) Talbot County; and

4 (10) Washington County.

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

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

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

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

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

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

18 (3) In Frederick County and Baltimore County, the licensee may keep for  
19 sale and sell light wines and ports that contain not in excess of 21 percent of alcohol  
20 by volume produced at the winery in any quantity to any consumer at retail at the  
21 place described in the license.

22 (4) (I) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW TO THE  
23 CONTRARY, IN HARFORD COUNTY, THE LICENSEE MAY KEEP FOR SALE AND SELL  
24 LIGHT WINES AND PORT WINES PRODUCED AT THE WINERY IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
25 THE PROVISIONS OF SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

26 (II) THE LIGHT WINES AND PORT WINES UNDER THE PROVISIONS  
27 OF SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH:

28 1. MAY NOT EXCEED 23 PERCENT OF ALCOHOL BY VOLUME;

29 2. MAY BE SOLD IN ANY QUANTITY TO A CONSUMER; AND

30 3. SHALL BE SOLD AT RETAIL AT THE PLACE DESCRIBED IN  
31 THE LICENSE.

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

33 (i) Baltimore County;

- 1 (ii) Frederick County;
- 2 (iii) Garrett County;
- 3 (iv) Harford County;
- 4 (v) Somerset County;
- 5 (vi) Talbot County; and
- 6 (vii) Washington County.

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

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

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
14 October 1, 2004.