

CHAPTER 394

(House Bill 373)

AN ACT concerning

Charles County – Alcoholic Beverages – Protest Against License Renewal

FOR the purpose of requiring that in Charles County a protest against the renewal of an alcoholic beverages license must specify the basis on which the protest is made; requiring that the protest be filed under oath; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners to approve the renewal of the license without a hearing if the Board makes a finding that the basis of the protest lacks substance; and generally relating to the renewal of alcoholic beverages licenses in Charles County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages
Section 10–301(a)(1)(i)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2005 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages
Section 10–301(a)(1)(iii)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2005 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages

10–301.

(a) (1) (i) Except in Prince George's County, the holder of any expiring license, other than special licenses issued under the provisions of this article, shall, not less than 30 nor more than 60 days before the first day of May of each and every year, file a written application, duly verified by oath, for the renewal of the license with the official authorized to approve the same.

(iii) **1. [A] SUBJECT TO SUBSUBPARAGRAPH 2 OF THIS SUBPARAGRAPH, A license by way of renewal may not be approved without a hearing before such official if a protest has been filed against the granting of the new license at least 30 days before the expiration of the license for which renewal is sought.**

2. IN CHARLES COUNTY:

A. A PROTEST SHALL SPECIFY THE BASIS ON WHICH THE PROTEST IS MADE;

B. THE PROTEST SHALL BE FILED UNDER OATH; AND

C. THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS MAY APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE LICENSE WITHOUT A HEARING IF THE BOARD MAKES A FINDING THAT THE BASIS OF THE PROTEST LACKS SUBSTANCE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

Approved by the Governor, May 8, 2007.