

CHAPTER 561

(Senate Bill 507)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore County – Alcoholic Beverages – Wine Tasting

FOR the purpose of ~~repealing in Baltimore County the maximum number of Class BWT beer and wine (on-premises) tasting licenses that are available each year to a holder of a Class A beer and light wine license or a Class A beer, wine and liquor license~~ establishing a beer, wine, and liquor tasting Class BWLT license in Baltimore County; increasing the fee for a Class BWT license in Baltimore County; establishing fees for Class BWLT licenses; authorizing a Class BWLT license holder to allow the consumption of certain alcoholic beverages for tasting and sampling; requiring a Class A license holder to apply for a Class BWT or Class BWLT license in a certain manner; requiring Class BWT and Class BWLT license holders to dispose of any unconsumed alcoholic beverages remaining in a container that was opened for tasting or sampling; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Baltimore County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages
Section 8-404.1
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

8-404.1.

~~(a) In Baltimore County, the Board of License Commissioners may issue a 1-day Class BWT beer and wine (on-premises) tasting license.~~

~~[(b) The maximum number of licenses available each year is 12.]~~

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES IN BALTIMORE COUNTY.

(B) THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS MAY ISSUE A CLASS BWT BEER AND LIGHT WINE (ON-PREMISES) TASTING LICENSE TO THE HOLDER OF A CLASS A BEER AND LIGHT WINE TASTING LICENSE.

(C) THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS MAY ISSUE A CLASS BWLT BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR (ON-PREMISES) TASTING LICENSE TO A HOLDER OF A CLASS A BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE.

(D) (1) THE FEES FOR A CLASS BWT AND CLASS BWLT LICENSE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(I) \$20 FOR A DAILY TASTING LICENSE, WHICH MAY BE ISSUED NOT MORE THAN 12 TIMES IN ANY ANNUAL LICENSE YEAR;

(II) \$200 ANNUALLY FOR A 26-DAY TASTING LICENSE, WHICH MAY BE USED CONSECUTIVELY OR NONCONSECUTIVELY; AND

(III) \$300 ANNUALLY FOR A 52-DAY TASTING LICENSE, WHICH MAY BE USED CONSECUTIVELY OR NONCONSECUTIVELY.

(2) THE FEES FOR A CLASS BWT LICENSE AND CLASS BWLT LICENSE ARE IN ADDITION TO THE CLASS A ANNUAL LICENSE FEE.

(E) (1) THE CLASS BWT LICENSE AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO ALLOW THE ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION OF LIGHT WINE OR BEER FOR TASTING.

(2) A PERSON MAY CONSUME LIGHT WINE OR BEER COVERED BY A CLASS BWT LICENSE IN A QUANTITY NOT EXCEEDING:

(I) 1 OUNCE OF LIGHT WINE FROM ALL BRANDS IN A SINGLE DAY; AND

(II) 3 OUNCES OF BEER FROM ALL BRANDS IN A SINGLE DAY.

(F) (1) THE CLASS BWLT LICENSE AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO ALLOW THE ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION OF BEER, LIGHT WINE, AND LIQUOR FOR TASTING OR SAMPLING.

(2) A PERSON MAY CONSUME LIGHT WINE, BEER, OR LIQUOR COVERED BY A CLASS BWLT LICENSE IN A QUANTITY NOT EXCEEDING:

(I) 1 OUNCE OF LIGHT WINE FROM ALL BRANDS IN A SINGLE DAY;

(II) 3 OUNCES OF BEER FROM ALL BRANDS IN A SINGLE DAY;
AND

(III) ONE-HALF OUNCE OF LIQUOR FROM ALL BRANDS IN A SINGLE DAY.

(G) AT THE END OF EACH DAY FOR WHICH A CLASS BWT OR A CLASS BWLT LICENSE IS VALID, THE HOLDER OF THE LICENSE SHALL DISPOSE OF ANY UNCONSUMED ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE REMAINING IN A CONTAINER THAT WAS OPENED FOR TASTING OR SAMPLING.

(H) (1) EACH CLASS A LICENSE HOLDER THAT SEEKS ISSUANCE OF A BWT OR BWLT LICENSE FOR WHICH THEY ARE ELIGIBLE SHALL APPLY FOR THE TYPE OF TASTING LICENSE AUTHORIZED BY THIS SECTION ON FORMS PROVIDED BY THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS.

(2) THE FORMS PROVIDED BY THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL SPECIFY THE DATE OR DATES ON WHICH THE TASTING IS REQUESTED TO OCCUR.

(3) THE APPLICATION AND PAYMENT FOR THE DAILY LICENSE SHALL BE SUBMITTED AT LEAST 7 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE TASTING EVENT OR 7 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE FIRST DAY OF CONSECUTIVE DAY TASTING EVENTS.

(4) THE APPLICATION AND PAYMENT FOR THE 26-DAY TASTING LICENSE AND THE 52-DAY TASTING LICENSE SHALL BE MADE AT LEAST 7 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE FIRST PROPOSED TASTING EVENT.

(5) THE HOLDER OF A 26-DAY TASTING LICENSE AND A 52-DAY TASTING LICENSE SHALL NOTIFY THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS, ON FORMS APPROVED BY THE BOARD, OF ADDITIONAL TASTING EVENTS AUTHORIZED BY THE LICENSES.

(I) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION ARE NOT RESTRICTED BY:

(1) § 12-107(B) OF THIS ARTICLE; AND

(2) THE PROVISIONS IN § 9-102 OF THIS ARTICLE WHICH PROHIBIT THE ISSUANCE OF TWO LICENSES FOR THE SAME PREMISES.

(J) THE HOLDER OF A CLASS BWT OR CLASS BWLT LICENSE MAY EXERCISE THE PRIVILEGES OF THIS SECTION DURING THE HOURS AND DAYS PROVIDED FOR UNDER THE HOLDER'S RESPECTIVE CLASS A LICENSE.

~~[(e)] (B) A Class BWT license may only be issued to a holder of a Class A beer and light wine license or a Class A beer, wine and liquor license.~~

~~[(d)] (C) (1) The fee for a Class BWT license is \$10.~~

~~(2) The fee for a Class BWT license is in addition to the Class A annual fee.~~

~~[(e)] (D) The Class BWT license authorizes a holder to permit the on-premises consumption of the following alcoholic beverages for tasting or sampling purposes only:~~

~~(1) Light wine to be served in a quantity of not more than 1 ounce from each given brand to any 1 person; and~~

~~(2) Beer to be served in a quantity of not more than 3 ounces to any 1 person.~~

~~[(f)] (E) At the end of the day for which the license is valid, a holder of a 1 day Class BWT license shall dispose of any unconsumed alcoholic beverage remaining in a container that was opened for tasting or sampling.~~

~~[(g)] (F) The provisions of this section are not restricted by:~~

~~(1) The provisions in § 12-107(b) of this article; and~~

~~(2) The provisions of law in § 9-102 of this article which prohibit the issuance of 2 licenses for the same premises.~~

~~[(h)] (G) The holder may exercise the privileges under the Class BWT license only during the hours and days provided for under the respective Class A license.~~

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

Approved by the Governor, May 17, 2007.