

BY: Delegate Bronrott

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 745  
(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, after “Beverages –” strike “Definitions – Beer” and substitute “Task Force to Study Flavored Malt Beverages”.

On pages 1 and 2, strike beginning with “altering” in line 3 on page 1 down through “Supplement)” in line 3 on page 2, inclusive, and substitute “establishing a Task Force to Study Flavored Malt Beverages; specifying the membership and duties of the Task Force; providing for the appointment of a chair of the Task Force; providing for the staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving compensation for serving on the Task Force; authorizing a member of the Task Force to receive reimbursement for certain expenses; requiring a certain report on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of the Task Force; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study Flavored Malt Beverages.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 5, strike “the Laws of Maryland read as follows”; and on pages 2 through 4, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 6 on page 2 through line 14 on page 4, inclusive, and substitute:

“(a) There is a Task Force to Study Flavored Malt Beverages in Maryland.

(b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

(1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;

(Over)

- (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- (3) the Attorney General, or the Attorney General's designee;
- (4) the Comptroller, or the Comptroller's designee; and
- (5) the following members, appointed by the Comptroller:
  - (i) two representatives of the alcoholic beverages industry;
  - (ii) two representatives of the public health sector; and
  - (iii) one member of the public.
- (c) The Comptroller shall designate one member as chair of the Task Force.
- (d) The Office of the Comptroller shall provide staff for the Task Force.
- (e) A member of the Task Force:
  - (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but
  - (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- (f) The Task Force shall:
  - (1) study and determine how to classify, tax, and regulate alcoholic beverages commonly known as "flavored malt beverages" that contain:

(i) 6% or less alcohol by volume, derived primarily from the fermentation of grain, with not more than 49% of each beverage's overall alcohol content by volume obtained from flavors and other added nonbeverage ingredients containing alcohol; or

(ii) more than 6% alcohol by volume, derived primarily from the fermentation of grain, with not more than 1.5% of each beverage's overall alcohol content by volume obtained from flavors and other added nonbeverage ingredients containing alcohol; and

(2) make recommendations regarding the classification, taxation, and regulation of flavored malt beverages, including statutory changes.

(g) The Task Force shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly on or before January 1, 2009.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2008. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2009, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect."