

Chapter 11

(Senate Bill 41)

AN ACT concerning

Dorchester County – Alcoholic Beverages – Clubs – Membership

FOR the purpose of reducing in Dorchester County the membership requirements for certain fraternal organizations and armed forces organizations or clubs to obtain a Class C beer, wine and liquor license; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Dorchester County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages
Section 6–301(a)(1) and (k)(1)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2005 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages
Section 6–301(k)(4) and (5)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2005 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages

6–301.

(a) (1) Except as provided in subsection (n) of this section, a Class C beer, wine and liquor license shall be issued by the license issuing authority of the county in which the place of business is located. It authorizes the holder to keep for sale and sell all alcoholic beverages at retail at any club, at the place described in the license, for consumption on the premises only.

(k) (1) This subsection applies only in Dorchester County.

(4) A license may be obtained by any local unit of a nationwide bona fide nonprofit organization or club composed solely of members who served in the armed forces of the United States in any war in which the United States has engaged and:

(i) Has held a charter from a national veterans' organization for a period of not less than 5 years prior to the time of making application for the license;

(ii) Has a bona fide membership of not less than [125] **50** persons and dues of not less than \$5 per year per person;

(iii) Operates solely for the use of its own members and their guests when accompanied by such members; and

(iv) Meets in a clubhouse principally used for no other purpose.

(5) A license may be obtained by any lodge or chapter of any bona fide nonprofit and nationwide fraternal organization composed of members duly elected and initiated in accordance with the rites and customs of the fraternal organization which:

(i) Has been in existence and operating in Dorchester County for a period of not less than 5 years prior to the time of making application for the license;

(ii) Has a bona fide membership of not less than [250] **125** persons and dues of not less than \$5 per annum per member;

(iii) Owns or operates a home or clubhouse principally for the use of its members and their guests when accompanied by such members; and

(iv) Is not directly or indirectly owned or operated as a public business.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2010.

Approved by the Governor, April 13, 2010.