

Chapter 164

(Senate Bill 33)

AN ACT concerning

Dorchester County – Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Beer, Wine and Liquor Licenses – Clubs

FOR the purpose of updating certain obsolete language by authorizing a certain organization to obtain a certain license from the County Council of Dorchester County under certain circumstances; updating certain obsolete language by requiring the County Council of Dorchester County to pay a certain alcoholic beverages license fee to the mayor and city council of a city or town under certain circumstances; requiring the County Council of Dorchester County to pay a certain alcoholic beverages license fee to the Finance Department of Dorchester County under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the distribution of Class C beer, wine and liquor license fees paid by organizations in Dorchester County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages
 Section 6–301(a)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2011 Replacement Volume)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages
 Section 6–301(k)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2011 Replacement Volume)

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.

(2) The annual fee for the license shall be paid to the local collecting agent before the license is issued, for distribution as provided.

(3) In this section, “board” means the board of commissioners for the jurisdiction to which the subsection applies.

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

(2) The annual license fee is \$1,000.

(3) A license may be obtained by any bona fide yacht club and golf and country club that:

(i) Has been incorporated 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 persons and dues of not less than \$10 per year per adult member;

(iii) Has facilities for preparing and serving food on the premises to members and their guests when accompanied by such members; and

(iv) Owns or operates a clubhouse located on premises principally used for no other purpose and not directly or indirectly owned or operated as a public business.

(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 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 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.

(6) A license may be obtained by Sailwinds Park, Inc., a nonprofit organization. The license may be obtained and renewed so long as no individual or group of individuals derive any personal profits from the operation of the Park.

(7) Upon payment of the license fee, any organization specified by this subsection may obtain a license from the County ~~Commissioners~~ **COUNCIL**.

(8) If the organization specified by this subsection is located within the corporate limits of any city or town, the County **[Commissioners] COUNCIL** shall pay the license fee to the mayor and city council of that city or town. Otherwise, they shall pay the fee to the **[treasurer] FINANCE DEPARTMENT** of Dorchester County.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

Approved by the Governor, May 2, 2012.