

Chapter 227

(House Bill 1028)

AN ACT concerning

Garrett County – Alcoholic Beverages – Sunday Sales

FOR the purpose of submitting to a referendum of the qualified voters of certain election districts and precincts of election districts in Garrett County the question of whether the holders of certain alcoholic beverages licenses in Garrett County should be authorized to sell alcoholic beverages for off–premises consumption on certain Sundays under certain circumstances; submitting to a referendum of the qualified voters of certain election districts and precincts of election districts in Garrett County the question of whether the holders of certain alcoholic beverages licenses in Garrett County should be authorized to sell alcoholic beverages for on– or off–premises consumption on certain Sundays under certain circumstances; requiring the Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Supervisors of Elections of Garrett County to take certain actions regarding each referendum required under this Act; requiring the County Board of License Commissioners to report certain information to the Department of Legislative Services by a certain date; requiring the publishers of the Annotated Code of Maryland to list in the Annotated Code each district and precinct in Garrett County that has approved the sale of alcoholic beverages by certain license holders on Sundays; submitting this Act to a referendum of the qualified voters of certain election districts and precincts of election districts in Garrett County; and generally relating to the sale of alcoholic beverages in Garrett County on Sundays.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

That:

(a) (1) In accordance with Title 21 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article, a question substantially similar to the following shall be submitted to a referendum of the qualified voters of the following election districts or precincts of election districts in Garrett County at the general election to be held in November of 2016: 2, 3–1, 12, and 16:

“Do you favor authorizing Sunday sales of alcoholic beverages for off–premises consumption, if applicable, in your election district by holders of alcoholic beverages licenses, in accordance with Title 21 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article, from 1 p.m. until 10 p.m. and requiring the payment of additional fees by license holders who wish to sell alcoholic beverages on Sundays?”

(2) In accordance with Title 21 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article, a question substantially similar to the following shall be submitted to a referendum of the qualified voters of the following election districts or precincts of election districts in Garrett County at the general election to be held in November of 2016: 4, 8–1, 8–2, 13, and 14–2:

“Do you favor authorizing Sunday sales of alcoholic beverages for on- and off-premises consumption, if applicable, in your election district by holders of alcoholic beverages licenses, in accordance with Title 21 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article, from 1 p.m. until 10 p.m. and requiring the payment of additional fees by license holders who wish to sell alcoholic beverages on Sundays?”

(b) (1) The Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Supervisors of Elections in Garrett County shall do those things necessary and proper to provide for and hold each referendum required by this section. If a majority of the votes cast on the question in an election district or a precinct of an election district are “For Sunday sales of alcoholic beverages”, the authority to sell alcoholic beverages on Sunday, in accordance with Title 21 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article, shall become effective in that election district or precinct on December 15, 2016; but if a majority of the votes cast on the question in an election district or precinct of an election district are “Against Sunday sales of alcoholic beverages”, the sale of alcoholic beverages on Sunday shall be prohibited in that election district or precinct.

(2) The Board of Supervisors of Elections of Garrett County shall notify the Department of Legislative Services concerning the results of each referendum required under this section in each election district and precinct of an election district.

(3) The Garrett County Board of License Commissioners shall provide to the Department of Legislative Services, by December 1, 2016, a complete list of all election districts and precincts in Garrett County in which Sunday sales of alcoholic beverages are authorized.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the publishers of the Annotated Code of Maryland, in consultation with and subject to the approval of the Department of Legislative Services, shall list, in an annotation to the appropriate sections of Title 21 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article, each district and precinct in Garrett County in which the voters have approved the sale of alcoholic beverages on Sundays.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That before this Act becomes effective it shall first be submitted to a referendum of the qualified voters of certain election districts and precincts of election districts in Garrett County at the general election to be held in November of 2016. The County governing body and the Garrett County Board of Elections shall do those things necessary and proper to provide for and hold the referendum required by this section. If a majority of the votes cast on the question are “For the referred law” the provisions of this Act shall become effective on December 15, 2016, but if a majority of the votes cast on the question are “Against the referred law” the provisions of this Act are of no effect and null and void.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions of Section 3 of this Act and for the sole purpose of providing for the referendum required by Section 3 of this Act, the Act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

Approved by the Governor, April 26, 2016.