

Chapter 583

**(Senate Bill 852)**

AN ACT concerning

**Anne Arundel County – Alcoholic Beverages – Beer and Wine Festivals**

FOR the purpose of expanding the types of festivals that a holder of a beer and wine festival license may hold in Anne Arundel County; authorizing the Anne Arundel County Board of License Commissioners to issue a certain beer and wine festival license to certain nonprofit organizations under certain circumstances; providing that, notwithstanding certain other provisions of law, a certain license holder may display and sell beer and wine at a certain beer and wine festival without holding certain permits; and generally relating to beer and wine festivals in Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Alcoholic Beverages

Section 2–131 and 2–134

Annotated Code of Maryland

(As enacted by Chapter \_\_\_\_ (S.B. \_\_\_\_)(6lr1406) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2016)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Alcoholic Beverages

Section 11–1304

Annotated Code of Maryland

(As enacted by Chapter \_\_\_\_ (S.B. \_\_\_\_)(6lr1406) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2016)

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

**Article – Alcoholic Beverages**

2–131.

(a) There is a nonprofit beer festival permit.

(b) The Comptroller may issue the permit to a nonprofit organization, as defined by § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, that meets the requirements of this section.

(c) (1) The permit authorizes the permit holder to:

(i) conduct a nonprofit beer festival for at least 1 day and not more than 3 consecutive days; and

(ii) purchase beer at wholesale to:

1. provide to a consumer a sample that may not exceed 1 fluid ounce for each offering; and

2. sell to a consumer beer for on- and off-premises consumption.

(2) The permit holder shall provide space at a nonprofit beer festival for holders of brewing company off-site permits.

(3) A holder of a brewing company off-site permit that attends a nonprofit beer festival may provide beer to a consumer in the same manner as the holder of the nonprofit beer festival permit.

(4) The permit holder may provide or sell at the nonprofit beer festival only alcoholic beverages provided by the permit holder or a holder of a brewing company off-site permit that is in attendance.

(d) At all times during the nonprofit beer festival, the permit holder shall have present at least two agents, one of whom may be the permit holder, who are certified by an approved alcohol awareness program.

(e) (1) Not less than 30 days before the nonprofit beer festival, a person shall submit an application to the local licensing board.

(2) The application shall:

(i) be on a form that the Comptroller provides;

(ii) state that the primary purpose of the nonprofit beer festival is to promote Maryland beer;

(iii) provide details of the nonprofit beer festival, including the location, dates, and times of operation; and

(iv) include appropriate evidence that the applicant has been given permission by the owner of the property where the nonprofit beer festival is to be held.

(f) Not less than 15 days before the nonprofit beer festival, the permit holder shall provide the local licensing board with a list of brewing company off-site permit holders that will attend.

(g) The permit fee is \$100.

- (a) There is a wine festival permit.
- (b) The Comptroller may issue the permit to a nonprofit organization, as defined by § 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, that meets the requirements of this section.
- (c) (1) The permit authorizes the permit holder to:
  - (i) conduct a wine festival for at least 1 day but not more than 3 consecutive days; and
  - (ii) purchase wine at wholesale to:
    - 1. provide to a consumer a sample that does not exceed 1 fluid ounce for each offering; and
    - 2. sell to a consumer wine for on- and off-premises consumption.
- (2) The permit holder shall provide space at a wine festival for holders of winery off-site permits.
- (3) A holder of a winery off-site permit that attends a wine festival may provide wine to a consumer in the same manner as the holder of the wine festival permit.
- (4) The permit holder may provide or sell at the wine festival only alcoholic beverages provided by the permit holder or a holder of a winery off-site permit that is in attendance.
- (d) At all times during the wine festival, the permit holder shall have present at least two agents, one of whom may be the permit holder, who are certified by an approved alcohol awareness program.
- (e) (1) Not less than 30 days before the wine festival, a person shall submit an application for the permit to the Comptroller.
  - (2) The application shall:
    - (i) be on a form that the Comptroller provides;
    - (ii) state that the primary purpose of the wine festival is to promote Maryland wine;
    - (iii) provide details of the wine festival, including the location, dates, and times of operation; and

(iv) include appropriate evidence that the applicant has been given permission by the owner of the property where the wine festival is to be held.

(f) Not less than 15 days before the wine festival, the permit holder shall provide the Comptroller with a list of winery off-site permit holders that will attend.

(g) The permit fee is \$100.

11-1304.

(a) In this section, “[Festival]” “**FESTIVAL**” means the Anne Arundel County Beer and Wine Festival [or], the Benson-Hammond House Strawberry Festival, **OR ANY OTHER FESTIVAL THAT THE BOARD APPROVES UNDER THIS SECTION.**

(b) There is a beer and wine festival (BWF) license.

(c) **(1)** The Board may issue the license to a holder of a retail license, a Class 3 winery license, or a Class 4 limited winery license.

**(2) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE LICENSE TO A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION, AS DEFINED BY § 501(C) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF:**

**(I) THIS SECTION; AND**

**(II) ANY REGULATIONS THAT THE BOARD ADOPTS.**

(d) The license authorizes the holder to display and sell:

(1) wine that is:

(i) manufactured and processed in any state; and

(ii) distributed in the State when the license application is filed; and

(2) beer that is brewed by a brewer:

(i) that brews less than 60,000 barrels of beer annually; and

(ii) whose product is distributed in the State when the license application is filed.

(e) A license holder shall display and sell beer and wine:

(1) at retail for on- and off-premises consumption; and

(2) during the hours and days designated for [the Festival] A FESTIVAL.

(f) The Board:

(1) each year may choose 1 weekend, Friday through Sunday inclusive, for [the Festival] A FESTIVAL TO TAKE PLACE;

(2) may not choose a weekend that occurs within 14 days before or after the Maryland Wine Festival in Carroll County;

(3) shall choose a location that is not already licensed; and

(4) shall ensure that the primary focus of [the Festival] A FESTIVAL is the promotion of Maryland beer and wine.

(g) (1) The license holder may hold another license of a different class or nature.

(2) THE LICENSE HOLDER MAY DISPLAY AND SELL BEER OR WINE AT A FESTIVAL WITHOUT HOLDING:

(I) A NONPROFIT BEER FESTIVAL PERMIT UNDER § 2-131 OF THIS ARTICLE; OR

(II) A WINE FESTIVAL PERMIT UNDER § 2-134 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(h) Beer and wine displayed and sold shall be:

(1) invoiced to the license holder by a wholesaler, a Class 3 winery, or a Class 4 limited winery; and

(2) delivered to [the Festival] A FESTIVAL from the licensed premises of the wholesaler, Class 3 winery, or Class 4 limited winery.

(i) A holder of a wholesale, Class 3 winery, or Class 4 limited winery license may enter into an agreement with the license holder to:

(1) deliver beer and wine not earlier than 2 days before the effective date of the license; and

(2) accept returns not later than 2 days after the expiration date of the license.

(j) The Board may set the license fee.

(k) The Board shall adopt regulations to carry out this section.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

**Approved by the Governor, May 19, 2016.**