

Chapter 628

(House Bill 739)

AN ACT concerning

Alcoholic Beverages – Nonprofit Beer Festival Permit – Revisions

FOR the purpose of increasing the amount of beer that a nonprofit beer festival permit holder may provide to a consumer under certain circumstances; requiring a person to submit an application for a nonprofit beer festival permit to the Comptroller instead of a local licensing board; requiring a person to provide the Comptroller instead of a local licensing board with a list of certain brewing company off-site permit holders that will attend a certain festival; making a technical correction; and generally relating to nonprofit beer festival permits.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Alcoholic Beverages

Section 2–131

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 ~~[\S 501(c)(3)]~~ **\S 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 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] 4~~ fluid ~~[ounce]~~ **OUNCES** 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] **COMPTROLLER**.

(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] **COMPTROLLER** with a list of brewing company off-site permit holders that will attend.

(g) The permit fee is \$100.

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

Approved by the Governor, May 19, 2016.