

Chapter 54

(House Bill 297)

AN ACT concerning

Dorchester County – Alcoholic Beverages – Beer and Wine Festivals

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Dorchester County to approve more than one beer and wine festival in Dorchester County each year to be held on a weekend; prohibiting the Board from approving more than one festival for any one weekend; requiring the Board to approve a location for a festival that is not already licensed; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Dorchester County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages
 Section 19–102
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2016 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages
 Section 19–1304
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2016 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

Article – Alcoholic Beverages

19–102.

This title applies only in Dorchester County.

19–1304.

(a) In this section, [“Festival”] **“FESTIVAL”** means [the] **A BEER AND WINE FESTIVAL IN** Dorchester County [Beer and Wine Festival].

(b) There is a Dorchester County [Beer and Wine Festival] **BEER AND WINE FESTIVAL (DBWF)** license.

(c) The Board may issue the license to a holder of a retail license, Class 3 winery license, Class 4 limited winery license, Class 6 pub–brewery license, Class 7 micro–brewery

license, or Class 8 farm brewery license.

(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 40,000 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] **FESTIVAL**.

(f) The Board:

(1) **(I) MAY APPROVE MORE THAN ONE FESTIVAL** each year [may choose 1] **TO BE HELD ON A weekend, Friday through Sunday inclusive[, for the Festival]; AND**

(II) MAY NOT APPROVE MORE THAN ONE FESTIVAL FOR ANY ONE WEEKEND;

(2) shall [choose] **APPROVE** a location that is not already licensed; and

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

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

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

(1) invoiced to the license holder by a wholesaler, Class 3 winery, or 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, 2018.

Approved by the Governor, April 10, 2018.