

SENATE BILL 555

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By: **Senator Cassilly**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2020

Assigned to: Finance and Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Consumer Protection – Unit Pricing – Alcoholic Beverages**

3 FOR the purpose of applying certain unit price disclosure requirements to the sale of
4 alcoholic beverages; making conforming changes; and generally relating to unit price
5 disclosure requirements and alcoholic beverages.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article – Commercial Law
8 Section 14–102
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Commercial Law**

14 14–102.

15 (a) This subtitle does not apply to:

16 (1) Prepackaged food which contains separately identifiable items that are
17 separated by physical division within the package;

18 (2) Any item sold only by prescription;

19 (3) **[Any] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION,**
20 **ANY** item subject to the packaging or labeling requirements of the federal **[Bureau of**
21 **Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms] ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO TAX AND TRADE BUREAU** or
22 to any pricing requirements under federal law;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (4) Any item actually being sold through a vending machine;

2 (5) Any item delivered directly to a retail sales agency without passing
3 through warehousing or other inventory facility used by the agency; or

4 (6) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a retail sales agency
5 which:

6 (i) During the preceding calendar year, sold a gross volume of
7 consumer commodities of less than \$750,000;

8 (ii) Is not part of a company which consists of ten or more sales
9 agencies in or out of the State;

10 (iii) Derives less than 15 percent of its total revenues from consumer
11 commodities subject to this subtitle; or

12 (iv) Is owned and operated by not more than one individual and the
13 members of his immediate family.

14 (b) A sales agency which otherwise is exempt under subsection (a)(6) of this
15 section nevertheless is subject to this subtitle if, during the preceding calendar year, the
16 company of which the sales agency is a part has a gross volume of sales of consumer
17 commodities in excess of \$30,000,000.

18 **(C) THIS SUBTITLE APPLIES TO THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.**

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
20 October 1, 2020.