

Chapter 786

(House Bill 1238)

AN ACT concerning

Somerset County – Alcoholic Beverages – Liquor Tasting License

FOR the purpose of establishing a liquor tasting license in Somerset County; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Somerset County to issue the license to the holder of a Class A beer, wine, and liquor license; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Somerset County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 29–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume)

BY adding to
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 29–1306
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume)

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

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

29–102.

This title applies only in Somerset County.

29–1306.

(A) THERE IS A LIQUOR TASTING LICENSE.

(B) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE LICENSE TO A HOLDER OF A CLASS A BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE.

(C) THE LICENSE AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO ALLOW THE CONSUMPTION OF LIQUOR FOR TASTING IF:

(1) THE LICENSE HOLDER IS AUTHORIZED TO SELL THE LIQUOR; AND

(2) THE CONSUMER IS NOT CHARGED FOR THE LIQUOR.

(D) AN INDIVIDUAL MAY CONSUME LIQUOR AT A LIQUOR TASTING IN A QUANTITY OF NOT MORE THAN:

(1) ONE-HALF OUNCE FROM EACH OFFERING OF LIQUOR; AND

(2) FIVE OFFERINGS IN 1 DAY.

(E) IN ADDITION TO THE COST OF THE CLASS A BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE, THE LIQUOR TASTING LICENSE FEES ARE:

(1) FOR A LICENSE THAT IS EFFECTIVE FOR ONLY 1 DAY IN A LICENSING PERIOD, \$20;

(2) FOR A LICENSE THAT IS EFFECTIVE FOR ANY 26 DAYS IN A LICENSING PERIOD, \$200;

(3) FOR A LICENSE THAT IS EFFECTIVE FOR ANY 52 DAYS IN A LICENSING PERIOD, \$300; AND

(4) FOR A LICENSE THAT IS EFFECTIVE FOR ANY 104 DAYS IN A LICENSING PERIOD, \$400.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

Approved by the Governor, May 20, 2025.