

HOUSE BILL 1238

A2

5lr2368

By: **Delegates Otto, Beauchamp, and Hartman**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2025

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Somerset County – Alcoholic Beverages – Liquor Tasting License**

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

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
9 Section 29–102
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2024 Replacement Volume)

12 BY adding to
13 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
14 Section 29–1306
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2024 Replacement Volume)

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

19 **Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis**

20 29–102.

21 This title applies only in Somerset County.

22 **29–1306.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(A) THERE IS A LIQUOR TASTING LICENSE.**

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

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

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

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

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

10 **(1) ONE–HALF OUNCE FROM EACH OFFERING OF LIQUOR; AND**

11 **(2) FIVE OFFERINGS IN 1 DAY.**

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

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

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

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

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

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
23 1, 2025.