

Chapter 646

(House Bill 1076)

AN ACT concerning

Montgomery County – Alcoholic Beverages – Sports Stadium License

MC 19–16

FOR the purpose of creating in Montgomery County a sports stadium license; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners to issue the license to certain individuals; establishing certain criteria for the sports stadium; establishing a certain residency requirement; authorizing the sale of beer and wine for on–premises consumption during a professional sports event or other event held at the stadium; allowing sales to take place at a service bar or throughout the stadium by individual sales vendors on behalf of the licensee; providing for the hours of sale for the license; requiring that all beer and wine intended for consumption at the stadium be purchased from the Montgomery County Department of Liquor Control; requiring that each server of alcoholic beverages hold a certain certificate; establishing an annual license fee; and generally relating to a sports stadium beer and wine license in Montgomery County.

BY adding to

Article – Alcoholic Beverages

Section 25–1011.1

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

25–1011.1.

(A) THERE IS A SPORTS STADIUM LICENSE.

(B) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE LICENSE TO THREE INDIVIDUALS SERVING ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A CORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP, OR LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY THAT OPERATES A STADIUM THAT:

(I) HAS A MINIMUM CAPITAL INVESTMENT OF \$2,000,000, NOT INCLUDING THE COST OF LAND;

**(II) SERVES AS A VENUE FOR PROFESSIONAL SPORTS EVENTS;
AND**

(III) HAS A SEATING CAPACITY OF 2,000 PERSONS, AS ESTABLISHED BY THE FIRE MARSHAL FOR THE COUNTY.

(2) AT LEAST ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS TO WHOM THE LICENSE IS ISSUED SHALL HAVE BEEN A RESIDENT OF THE STATE FOR AT LEAST THE 2 YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE ISSUANCE OF THE LICENSE.

(C) (1) THE LICENSE AUTHORIZES THE LICENSE HOLDER TO SELL BEER AND WINE FOR ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION DURING A PROFESSIONAL SPORTS EVENT OR OTHER EVENT HELD AT THE STADIUM.

(2) SALES MAY TAKE PLACE AT A SERVICE BAR OR THROUGHOUT THE STADIUM BY INDIVIDUAL SALES VENDORS ON BEHALF OF THE LICENSE HOLDER.

(D) (1) THE HOURS OF SALE DURING A SPORTS EVENT ARE:

(I) FROM 30 MINUTES BEFORE THE START OF THE EVENT UNTIL THE START OF THE FINAL PERIOD OF PLAY IF ONLY ONE EVENT IS PLAYED IN A DAY; OR

(II) FROM 30 MINUTES BEFORE THE START OF THE FIRST EVENT UNTIL THE START OF THE FINAL PERIOD OF PLAY OF THE LAST EVENT SCHEDULED FOR THAT DAY IF MORE THAN ONE EVENT IS PLAYED ON THE SAME DAY.

(2) THE HOURS OF SALE FOR AN EVENT OTHER THAN A SPORTS EVENT SHALL BE SET BY THE BOARD.

(E) ALL BEER AND WINE INTENDED FOR CONSUMPTION AT THE STADIUM SHALL BE PURCHASED FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LIQUOR CONTROL FOR THE COUNTY.

(F) EACH SERVER OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT THE STADIUM SHALL HOLD A CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION FROM AN APPROVED ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM AS DESCRIBED IN § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(G) THE ANNUAL LICENSE FEE IS \$2,000.

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

Approved by the Governor, May 19, 2016.