

Chapter 136

(House Bill 813)

AN ACT concerning

Prince George's County – Hyattsville – Arts and Entertainment District – Licensed Alcoholic Beverages Establishments – Distance from ~~Churches~~ Places of Worship

PG 308–12

FOR the purpose of ~~altering the minimum distance required between a licensed alcoholic beverages establishment and a church in the part of the Gateway Arts and Entertainment District located in the City of Hyattsville; specifying the manner in which the distance between a licensed establishment and a church is to be measured~~ allowing in the part of the Gateway Arts and Entertainment District in the City of Hyattsville the use of the front door or main entrance of an establishment for which a certain alcoholic beverages license is issued if the door or entrance is at least a certain distance from a place of worship; making stylistic changes; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Prince George's County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages
Section 9–217(e)(1)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2011 Replacement Volume)

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

Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages

9–217.

(e) (1) (I) [A] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN ITEM (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, A license may not be granted to sell alcoholic beverages in any building located within 1,000 feet of a school building, or within 500 feet of a ~~church~~ **PLACE OF WORSHIP**. The 1,000 feet, or the 500 feet, as the case may be, is to be measured from the front door or main entrance, whichever is nearest the street abutting the premises, of the proposed licensed establishment along the nearest usual pedestrian route to the door closest to the licensed premises which is used as an entrance or exit to any school, or to the main entrance of the ~~church building~~ **PLACE OF WORSHIP**.

(ii) ~~1.~~ IN THE PART OF THE GATEWAY ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT LOCATED IN THE CITY OF HYATTSVILLE, AS DESIGNATED BY THE SECRETARY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ~~A LICENSE MAY NOT BE GRANTED TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN A BUILDING LOCATED WITHIN 350 FEET OF A CHURCH.~~

~~2. THE 350 FEET IS TO BE MEASURED STARTING FROM THE FRONT DOOR OR MAIN ENTRANCE THAT IS NEAREST THE STREET ABUTTING THE BUILDING WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE TO BE SOLD, ALONG THE NEAREST USUAL PEDESTRIAN ROUTE, AND ENDING AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE CHURCH~~ THE FRONT DOOR OR MAIN ENTRANCE OF AN ESTABLISHMENT FOR WHICH A CLASS D BEER AND WINE LICENSE IS ISSUED MAY BE USED IF THE DOOR OR ENTRANCE IS AT LEAST 350 FEET FROM A PLACE OF WORSHIP.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2012.

Approved by the Governor, April 10, 2012.