

Chapter 183

(House Bill 388)

AN ACT concerning

Charles County – Alcoholic Beverages – View of Licensed Premises

FOR the purpose of limiting the hours within which certain individuals are required to provide a certain view of the interior of licensed premises where alcoholic beverages are served; ~~specifying that a certain view may be obstructed during a certain period of time for security purposes;~~ authorizing a license holder to install a protective covering over an exterior door or window of the licensed premises under certain circumstances; providing that this Act does not prevent an inspection and search of the licensed premises under certain circumstances; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Charles County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages
Section 18–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2016 Volume and 2018 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages
Section 18–1903
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2016 Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

Article – Alcoholic Beverages

18–102.

This title applies only in Charles County.

18–1903.

(a) A license holder or agent or employee of the license holder may sell alcoholic beverages only in a room having at least one plain glass window or door that allows an individual standing on the outside to observe the interior of the licensed premises [at] **DURING** all hours **OF OPERATION**.

(b) ~~(1)~~ [The] **DURING ALL HOURS OF OPERATION, THE** view afforded by the window or door may not be obstructed.

~~(2) DURING THE HOURS THAT THE LICENSED PREMISES ARE NOT IN OPERATION, BLINDS, A CURTAIN, A SCREEN, OR ANY OTHER OBSTRUCTION MAY BE PLACED IN FRONT OF THE WINDOW OR DOOR FOR SECURITY PURPOSES.~~

(C) (1) A LICENSE HOLDER MAY INSTALL A PROTECTIVE COVERING OVER AN EXTERIOR DOOR OR WINDOW OF THE LICENSED PREMISES IF THE COVERING IS:

(I) USED ONLY WHEN THE LICENSED PREMISES IS NOT OCCUPIED;

(II) DESIGNED TO PROTECT THE LICENSED PREMISES FROM UNLAWFUL INTRUSION OR DESTRUCTION; AND

(III) SECURED ONLY FROM THE EXTERIOR OF THE LICENSED PREMISES.

(2) THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT PREVENT AN INSPECTION AND SEARCH OF THE LICENSED PREMISES UNDER § 6-202 OF THIS ARTICLE.

~~(D)~~ A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$250 or imprisonment or both.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

Approved by the Governor, April 18, 2019.