

Chapter 282

**(House Bill 827)**

AN ACT concerning

**Alcoholic Beverage Taxes – Wine Tax Revenue Distribution**

FOR the purpose of distributing certain alcoholic beverage tax revenues to the Maryland Wine and Grape Promotion Fund; and generally relating to wineries and alcoholic beverage taxes in the State.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
Article – Agriculture  
Section 2–1102(a)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2007 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Agriculture  
Section 2–1102(f)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2007 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Tax – General  
Section 5–105  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2010 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

**Article – Agriculture**

2–1102.

(a) There is a Maryland Wine and Grape Promotion Fund.

(f) The Fund consists of:

(1) Money appropriated in the State budget to the Fund; [and]

(2) **REVENUE DISTRIBUTED TO THE FUND UNDER § 5–105(E) OF THE  
TAX – GENERAL ARTICLE; AND**

(3) Any other money from any other source accepted for the benefit of the Fund.

### Article – Tax – General

5–105.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, the alcoholic beverage tax rate for distilled spirits is:

(1) \$1.50 for each gallon or 39.63 cents for each liter; and

(2) if distilled spirits contain a percentage of alcohol greater than 100 proof, an additional tax, for each 1 proof over 100 proof, of 1.5 cents for each gallon or 0.3963 cents for each liter.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, the alcoholic beverage tax rate for wine is 40 cents for each gallon or 10.57 cents for each liter.

(c) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, the alcoholic beverage tax rate on beer is 9 cents for each gallon or 2.3778 cents for each liter.

(d) The tax imposed under § 5–102(b) of this subtitle shall equal the amount that the discriminating jurisdiction charges a Maryland licensee or permit holder.

**(E) THE REVENUE GENERATED FROM THE TAX IMPOSED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION ON WINE PRODUCED AT WINERIES LICENSED UNDER ARTICLE 2B SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE MARYLAND WINE AND GRAPE PROMOTION FUND UNDER § 2–1102 OF THE AGRICULTURE ARTICLE.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2015.

**Approved by the Governor, May 12, 2015.**