

# SENATE BILL 218

A1

8lr1981  
CF 8lr1273

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By: **Senators Young, Salling, ~~and Smith~~ Smith, Eckardt, Guzzone, and Manno**

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2018

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 13, 2018

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Alcoholic Beverages – Retail Wine Sellers – Shochu and Soju**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing that a retail alcoholic beverages license that grants the  
4 privilege to sell wine for off-premises consumption also grants the privilege to sell  
5 shochu and soju for off-premises consumption under certain terms and conditions;  
6 defining “shochu” and “soju”; and generally relating to the sale of shochu and soju.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Alcoholic Beverages

9 Section 4–1107

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2016 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Alcoholic Beverages**

15 **4–1107.**

16 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**  
17 **INDICATED.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1           **(2) “SHOCHU” MEANS A TRADITIONAL JAPANESE ALCOHOLIC**  
2 **BEVERAGE THAT CONTAINS NOT MORE THAN 24% OF ALCOHOL BY VOLUME AND IS**  
3 **DERIVED FROM AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.**

4           **(3) “SOJU” MEANS A TRADITIONAL KOREAN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE**  
5 **THAT CONTAINS NOT MORE THAN 24% OF ALCOHOL BY VOLUME AND IS DERIVED**  
6 **FROM AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.**

7           **(B) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, A RETAIL ALCOHOLIC**  
8 **BEVERAGES LICENSE ISSUED THAT GRANTS THE PRIVILEGE TO SELL WINE FOR**  
9 **OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION ALSO GRANTS THE PRIVILEGE TO SELL SHOCHU OR**  
10 **SOJU FOR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION UNDER THE SAME TERMS AND**  
11 **CONDITIONS THAT APPLY TO THE SALE OF WINE.**

12           **(C) A LIMIT ON THE SALE OF WINE BY VOLUME DOES NOT APPLY TO THE**  
13 **SALE OF SHOCHU OR SOJU.**

14           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
15 1, 2018.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.