

Chapter 768

**(Senate Bill 955)**

AN ACT concerning

**Kent County Alcoholic Beverages Act of 2019**

FOR the purpose of authorizing a holder of a Class D beer, wine, and liquor license in Kent County to sell alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption as well as on-premises consumption; repealing a certain provision of law concerning Sunday sales under a Class D license; increasing the maximum number of rooms that a facility with a Class B (country inn) beer, wine, and liquor license may offer to the public as sleeping accommodations; decreasing the minimum number of permanently installed seats required in a theater with a theater beer, wine, and liquor license; authorizing a licensed theater to regularly present cinematic as well as live entertainment; altering the hours of sale for a licensed theater; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Kent County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
Article – Alcoholic Beverages  
Section 24–102  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2016 Volume and 2018 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Alcoholic Beverages  
Section 24–904, 24–1002, and 24–1004  
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**

24–102.

This title applies only in Kent County.

24–904.

(a) There is a Class D beer, wine, and liquor license.

(b) The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor at retail at the place described in the license for [on-premises] **ON- AND OFF-PREMISES** consumption.

(c) [On Sunday, a license holder may sell only beer and wine for off-premises consumption.

(d)] The license may not be issued for use by a drugstore.

[(e)] (D) The annual license fee is \$1,500.

24-1002.

(a) There is a Class B (country inn) beer, wine, and liquor license.

(b) The Board may issue the Class B (country inn) beer, wine, and liquor license for the use of a country inn that:

(1) is licensed by the county to operate as a country inn;

(2) excluding the resident management quarters, has not more than [10] 15 rooms that the public for consideration may use for sleeping accommodations for a specified time; and

(3) has a kitchen facility for the guests that is separate from the kitchen facility for the resident management quarters.

(c) The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption to a guest if:

(1) the name and address of the guest appear on the registry that the country inn maintains; and

(2) the guest is an occupant of a sleeping room in the country inn.

(d) The license holder may sell beer, wine, and liquor during the hours and days as set out for a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license under § 24-2004 of this title.

(e) The license does not authorize the sale of beer, wine, and liquor to an individual who is registered as a guest at the country inn only to obtain beer, wine, and liquor.

(f) If the country inn ceases to be operated as a country inn, the license is void.

(g) The annual license fee is \$550.

24-1004.

(a) There is a theater beer, wine, and liquor license.

(b) The Board may issue the license to an applicant for the use of a theater that:

(1) is housed in a building;

(2) has a capacity to hold at least [150] **100** permanently installed seats;

and

(3) regularly presents live **OR CINEMATIC** entertainment.

(c) The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor at retail for on-premises consumption.

(d) [The] **EXCEPT FROM 2 A.M. TO 6 A.M., THE** license holder may sell beer, wine, and liquor[:

(1) for 2 hours before the entertainment begins;

(2) during the entertainment; and

(3) for 1 hour after the entertainment ends] **WHEN THE THEATER IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

(e) The license may not be transferred to another location.

(f) The annual license fee is \$500.

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

**Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 25, 2019.**