SENATE BILL 983

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore City – 43rd Legislative District – Alcoholic Beverages – Beer, Wine, and Liquor Tasting License

FOR the purpose of establishing a Class BWLT beer, wine, and liquor tasting license in a certain part of the 43rd Legislative District of Baltimore City; establishing fees for Class BWLT licenses; authorizing a Class BWLT license holder to allow the consumption of certain alcoholic beverages for tasting or sampling; requiring a Class A license holder to apply for a Class BWLT license in a certain manner; requiring a Class BWLT license holder to dispose of any unconsumed alcoholic beverages remaining in a container that was opened for tasting or sampling; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Baltimore City.

BY adding to

Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages
Section 8–403.2
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2005 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages

8–403.2.

(a) This section applies only in Ward 27, Precinct 32 of the 43rd Legislative District of Baltimore City.
(B) The Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City may issue a Class BWLT beer, wine, and liquor (on-premises) tasting license to a holder of a Class A beer, wine and liquor license.

(C) (1) The fees for a Class BWLT license are as follows:

   (I) $20 for a daily tasting license, which may be issued not more than 12 times in any annual license year;
   
   (II) $200 annually for a 26-day tasting license, which may be used consecutively or nonconsecutively; and
   
   (III) $300 annually for a 52-day tasting license, which may be used consecutively or nonconsecutively.

(2) The fees for a Class BWLT license are in addition to the Class A annual license fee.

(D) (1) A Class BWLT license authorizes the holder to allow the on-premises consumption of beer, light wine, and liquor for tasting or sampling.

   (2) A person may consume beer, light wine, or liquor covered by a Class BWLT license in a quantity not exceeding:

   (I) 1 ounce of light wine from a given brand in a single day;

   (II) 3 ounces of beer from a given brand in a single day; and

   (III) One-half ounce of liquor from a given brand in a single day.

(E) At the end of each day for which a Class BWLT license is valid, the holder of the license shall dispose of any unconsumed alcoholic beverage remaining in a container that was opened for tasting or sampling.

(F) (1) Each Class A license holder that seeks issuance of a class BWLT license for which the holder is eligible shall apply for the license on forms provided by the Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City.
(2) The forms provided by the Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall specify the date or dates on which the tasting is requested to occur.

(3) The application and payment for the daily license shall be submitted at least 7 days in advance of the tasting event or 7 days in advance of the first day of consecutive day tasting events.

(4) The application and payment for the 26-day tasting license and the 52-day tasting license shall be made at least 7 days in advance of the first proposed tasting event.

(5) The holder of a 26-day tasting license and a 52-day tasting license shall notify the Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City, on forms approved by the Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City, of additional tasting events authorized by the licenses.

(G) The provisions of this section are not restricted by:

(1) § 12–107(b) of this article; and

(2) The provisions in § 9–102 of this article that prohibit the issuance of two licenses for the same premises.

(H) The holder of a Class BWLT license may exercise the privileges of this section during the hours and days provided for under the holder's respective Class A license.

Section 2. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2009.