

# HOUSE BILL 110

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CF SB 41

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By: **Delegates Eckardt, Cane, and Haddaway**

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2010

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Dorchester County – Alcoholic Beverages – Clubs – Membership**

3 FOR the purpose of reducing in Dorchester County the membership requirements for  
4 certain fraternal organizations and armed forces organizations or clubs to  
5 obtain a Class C beer, wine and liquor license; and generally relating to  
6 alcoholic beverages licenses in Dorchester County.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
8 Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages  
9 Section 6–301(a)(1) and (k)(1)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages  
14 Section 6–301(k)(4) and (5)  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

19 **Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages**

20 6–301.

21 (a) (1) Except as provided in subsection (n) of this section, a Class C beer,  
22 wine and liquor license shall be issued by the license issuing authority of the county in  
23 which the place of business is located. It authorizes the holder to keep for sale and sell  
24 all alcoholic beverages at retail at any club, at the place described in the license, for  
25 consumption on the premises only.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (k) (1) This subsection applies only in Dorchester County.

2 (4) A license may be obtained by any local unit of a nationwide bona  
3 fide nonprofit organization or club composed solely of members who served in the  
4 armed forces of the United States in any war in which the United States has engaged  
5 and:

6 (i) Has held a charter from a national veterans' organization for  
7 a period of not less than 5 years prior to the time of making application for the license;

8 (ii) Has a bona fide membership of not less than [125] 50  
9 persons and dues of not less than \$5 per year per person;

10 (iii) Operates solely for the use of its own members and their  
11 guests when accompanied by such members; and

12 (iv) Meets in a clubhouse principally used for no other purpose.

13 (5) A license may be obtained by any lodge or chapter of any bona fide  
14 nonprofit and nationwide fraternal organization composed of members duly elected  
15 and initiated in accordance with the rites and customs of the fraternal organization  
16 which:

17 (i) Has been in existence and operating in Dorchester County  
18 for a period of not less than 5 years prior to the time of making application for the  
19 license;

20 (ii) Has a bona fide membership of not less than [250] 125  
21 persons and dues of not less than \$5 per annum per member;

22 (iii) Owns or operates a home or clubhouse principally for the  
23 use of its members and their guests when accompanied by such members; and

24 (iv) Is not directly or indirectly owned or operated as a public  
25 business.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
27 July 1, 2010.