



# Legislation Bulletin

## 2015 Session Summary

### Local Alcohol Legislation – Montgomery County

The following legislation takes effect July 1, 2015, unless otherwise noted. Where it is known, the Chapter number is indicated in parentheses indicating the Governor has signed the legislation.

**HB-88 (Chapter 61)** - Authorizes the Board of License Commissioners to issue a refillable wine container permit for off-premise consumption. The permit is available to licenses with off-premise authority. No charge for the additional authority.

**HB-89 (Chapter 62)** - Authorizes the Board of License Commissioners to issue a class BD-BWL license. The license provides for beer and wine for off-premise sale and beer wine and liquor for on-premise sale. Food and alcohol ratios of 40/60 apply until 9 pm. The license holder may also hold a class 7 Micro-brewery license issued by the State Comptroller. Hours are from 10-2 am daily for on-premise consumption and 6-1 am for off-premise sale. Fee \$3,500.

**HB-90 and SB-426** - Alters the residency requirements from requiring at least one person to be a Montgomery County resident for the preceding 2 years to allowing for a resident of the State for the preceding 2 years to meet the residency requirement.

**HB-91 (Chapter 63)** – For the town of Laytonsville, alters the license class that may be issued from up to 2 class H-BW licenses to 2 class B-BWL licenses. Also repeals a prohibition on pool and billiard tables, shuffleboard and dart board, video games, and pinball machines located on the licensed premise.

**HB-92 (Chapter 64)** – Repeals a prohibition to allow the State Comptroller to issue a one-day charity wine auction permit in Montgomery County. Fee \$10.

**HB-93 (Chapter 65)** – Creates an exemption for the distance requirements for a license to be set back from a church or school when a one-day class C license is issued for a church or school. This law takes effect October 1, 2015.

**HB-95 (chapter 66)** – Creates a limited exemption in Gaithersburg for a class B-BWL license to be issued that meets certain minimum distance requirements from a church.

**HB-202 (Chapter 77)** – Authorizes the Board of License Commissioners to issue a class D-BW license to the holder of a State class 3 Winery license provided the winery does not produce more than 20,000 gallons of wine per year.

**HB-316 (Chapter 85)** – Removes a Takoma Park license designation from various categories of current licenses and provides for those licenses to be renewed or transferred to the general County license equivalent.



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### Statewide Legislation

**SB-643(HB-330)** - Allows for the holder of a class 7 micro-brewery license to obtain a second class 7 micro-brewery license for another premise. Gallonage limits still apply.

**SB-937 (HB-1288)** - Prohibits the sale of alcoholic beverages that are sold in powder or crystalline form for direct use in combination with water or any other substance, with a penalty. Effective June 1, 2015, with a sunset provision for June 30, 2016.

**HB-64** - Repeals a time limit within which a court may affirm, modify or reverse a decision by a local Board of License Commissioners.

**HB-526** – Creates a non-profit beer festival permit to be issued by the Board of License Commissioners. The primary purpose of the festival is to promote Maryland beer and the festival may be up to three days in length. The permit allows for both on and off-premise consumption of beer. The permit fee is \$100. Effective June 1, 2015.

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**For more information on new legislation please contact:**

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