



CALVERT COUNTY LIQUOR BOARD

175 Main Street
Courthouse
Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678
410-535-1600 • 301-855-1243

Board of Commissioners
Gerald W. Clark
Pat Nutter
Susan Shaw
Evan K. Slaughenhaupt Jr.
Steven R. Weems

June 4, 2014

Dear Licensee:

The Board of License Commissioners had a number of requests for the 2014 Legislative Session. We were able to get five of our legislative requests passed. All of the legislation which passed is posted on our website (<http://www.co.cal.md.us/index.aspx?NID=664>) for your review. I am including a short synopsis of the bills in this letter. If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-343-3379 or Linda Tayman at 410-474-1314. You may also want to review the bills with your legal advisor. All of this legislation becomes law on July 1, 2014.

SB 340: This law will prohibit unlicensed establishments from allowing patrons to bring and consume alcohol on their premises. There is an exception for Fire Departments, Rescue Squads and EMS organizations to have four events a year where BYOB is allowed. This exception allows them to continue their fundraising efforts. The penalty for violation is a fine up to \$10,000 and/or up to two years imprisonment.

SB 341: Class A, B and D licensees may now get a permit to sell beer in refillable containers to be consumed off premises. The bill details the requirements for the containers, sets the hours for refilling (open – midnight) and establishes the annual permit fee. Most licensees will have a fee of \$50/year. Those who do not have an off-sale privilege will have a fee of \$500/year and will be required to go through the posting requirements of their current license, have a hearing, etc. to give them the off-sale privilege. The application for the permit is available on our website.

SB 495: This bill was two-fold and is the most important of the session. The first part reduces the number of required inspections from four per year to one every six months. The second part is the authority to impose fines for violations of the law and/or our Rules and Regulations. It gives the Board a maximum fining authority of \$1000 for a violation of the law and \$500 for a violation of the Rules and Regulations. It also sets a maximum penalty for the first time sale to minors of \$500 and/or up to three days suspension. For a second offense within three years the

maximum penalty is \$1000 and/or thirty days suspension.

SB496: This bill expands the types of organizations which may obtain a Class C Club License to include Fraternal Organizations and Volunteer Fire Departments and Rescue Squads. The annual fee will be \$500.

SB 548: This bill establishes a Festival Permit for a licensed establishment needing more service counters or bars than the one additional allowed off the premises. If the event is expected to draw more than 750 customers and the licensee feels that they will need more bars, they may get a three day permit to allow as many service counters or bars as they feel they may need to serve their crowd safely and efficiently. The permit fee is \$100 for the three day period. The licensee will be required to have enhanced security for the event.

There were also several statewide bills passed this year and a synopsis of them is on our website for your review. Most of the statewide bills become effective on October 1, 2014.

Please contact us with any comments or questions as we value your input. I can be reached at bswoap1@gmail.com.

Respectfully,



Beth Swoap, Chair

Calvert County Board of License Commissioners