

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER, Governor

An alcoholic beverages licensee is subject to serious penalties for violations; because of the prepayment provisions, which allow a violator to pay a fine in advance and avoid appearing in court, minors who violate these laws are able to escape somewhat painlessly. The repeal by the Senate Bill of these provisions adds significant weight to the penalties, as violators will have to place themselves within the hands of the justice system, rather than simply placing a check in the mail.

Because of the repeal of the prepayment provisions, I believe that Senate Bill 458 is a better approach to the serious problem of violations of alcoholic beverages laws by minors. For this reason, I have vetoed House Bill 961.

Sincerely,
William Donald Schaefer
Governor

House Bill No. 961

AN ACT concerning

Alcoholic Beverages - Civil Citations - Posted Warnings--
Penalties

FOR the purpose of altering the minimum and maximum amounts of certain fines for violations of certain alcoholic beverages laws concerning certain persons; ~~requiring a retail dealer under the alcoholic beverages laws to post signs containing certain language; requiring the Comptroller of the Treasury to print and provide certain signs; and generally relating to the regulation of alcoholic beverages.~~

~~BY adding to~~

~~Article 2B---Alcoholic Beverages
Section 118B
Annotated Code of Maryland
{1981 Replacement Volume and 1986 Supplement}~~

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
Section 403A(b) and 403B(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1982 Replacement Volume and 1986 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,