

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section 19(e) (4) of Article 81 - Revenue and Taxes, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969 Replacement Volume and 1973 Supplement) be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Article 81 - Revenue and Taxes

19.

(e) (4) For the purposes of this subsection a country club shall mean an area of land of not less than fifty acres, on which is maintained a regular or championship golf course of nine holes or more and a clubhouse, and which has a dues-paying membership of not less than one hundred persons who pay dues averaging at least fifty dollars (\$50.00) annually per member, with the use of the club being restricted primarily to members, their families and guests, provided that the fact that the club facilities may be used by persons or groups other than members or their guests does not disqualify a club under this subsection. IN ORDER TO QUALIFY UNDER THIS SECTION, THE CLUB SHALL NOT PRACTICE OR ALLOW TO BE PRACTICED ANY FORM OF DISCRIMINATION IN GRANTING MEMBERSHIP OR GUEST PRIVILEGES BASED UPON THE RACE, COLOR, CREED, SEX, OR NATIONAL ORIGIN OF ANY PERSON OR PERSONS. THE DETERMINATION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT ANY CLUB PRACTICES DISCRIMINATION SHALL BE MADE BY THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AFTER AFFORDING A HEARING TO THE CLUB. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION WITH RESPECT TO DISCRIMINATION IN SEX SHALL NOT APPLY TO ANY CLUB WHOSE FACILITIES ARE OPERATED WITH THE PRIMARY PURPOSE, AS DETERMINED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, TO SERVE OR BENEFIT MEMBERS OF A PARTICULAR SEX, NOR TO THE CLUBS WHICH EXCLUDE CERTAIN SEXES ONLY ON CERTAIN DAYS AND AT CERTAIN TIMES. IF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DETERMINES THAT A PATTERN OF DISCRIMINATION IS EVIDENT IN ANY CLUB, HE SHALL NEGOTIATE A CONSENT AGREEMENT WITH THAT CLUB TO CEASE SUCH DISCRIMINATION. IF THAT CLUB BREACHES OR VIOLATES THE CONSENT AGREEMENT OR REFUSES TO ENTER A CONSENT AGREEMENT, THEN THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL ISSUE A CEASE AND DESIST ORDER TO THAT CLUB. IF THE CLUB BREACHES OR VIOLATES THE TERMS OF THE CEASE AND DESIST ORDER, THE TAX EXEMPTION, TAX CREDIT OR BENEFICIAL ASSESSMENT SHALL BE WITHDRAWN, UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DETERMINES THAT THE CLUB IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION. FURTHER, ANY CLUB WHICH FAILS TO QUALIFY AS A COUNTRY CLUB, UNDER PARAGRAPH (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION BECAUSE THE CLUB HAS ENGAGED IN DISCRIMINATION SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR UNPAID TAXES PROVIDED FOR IN SUBPARAGRAPH (7) OF THIS SUBSECTION. HOWEVER THE CLUB SHALL BE ASSESSED AND TAXED WITHOUT REGARD TO THIS SUBSECTION. THERE SHALL BE A RIGHT OF APPEAL AS PROVIDED BY SECTIONS 255 AND 256 OF ARTICLE 41 OF THIS CODE (TITLE