

House Bill No. 373 - Alcoholic Beverages Laws

AN ACT concerning

Alcoholic Beverages Laws - ~~[[Technical Corrections]]~~

FOR the purpose of correcting certain technical errors in the laws relating to alcoholic beverages ~~[[.]]; and providing for certain causes of actions under the Beer Franchise Fair Dealing Act.~~

May 15, 1975.

Honorable John Hanson Briscoe  
Speaker of the House of Delegates  
State House  
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 373.

This bill was originally drafted with the intent to correct certain technical errors in the alcoholic beverages laws. However, the bill was amended in order to provide for certain causes of action under the Beer Franchise Fair Dealing Act. This was done by adding an amended version of Section 203G of Article 2B to the bill. This raises the initial question of whether the final version of House Bill 373 embraces more than one subject in contravention of Article III, Section 29 of the Maryland Constitution.

Without discussing this question further, there are other reasons for the veto of this bill. House Bill 1581, which was enacted by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 15, 1975, accomplishes the same purpose as that intended by the General Assembly in amending Section 203G into House Bill 373.

In addition, House Bill 575, which was enacted by the General Assembly and signed by me on March 25, 1975, repeals Section 158(d)(3) of Article 2B, a provision relating to the operation of stag bars in Anne Arundel County. Should I now sign House Bill 373, Section 158(d)(3) would be reinstated into law by virtue of a corrective amendment made by the bill to Section 158(d). The result would be in direct conflict with the intent of the General Assembly in enacting House Bill 575.