CHAPTER 297

(Senate Bill 325)

AN ACT concerning

Tobacco Smoking - Retail Stores

FOR the purpose of prohibiting smoking in certain parts of certain retail stores; providing certain exceptions; defining certain terms; providing that a violation of a centain provision of this Act is a civil offense; providing for the enforcement of this Act; providing that except in Charles and St. Mary's Counties this Act does not prevent a county or municipality in the State from enacting provisions more stringent than this Act; prohibiting Charles and St. Mary's Counties from enacting provisions more stringent than this Act; and relating generally to tobacco smoking in retail stores.

BY adding to

Article - Health - General
Section 24-501 through 24-505 to be under the new subtitle
"Subtitle 5. Tobacco Smoking in Retail Stores"
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1987 Replacement Volume)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Health - General

SUBTITLE 5. TOBACCO SMOKING IN RETAIL STORES

24-501.

- (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.
- (B) "PUBLIC AREA" MEANS A ROOM OR A PORTION OF A ROOM OR OTHER AREA TO WHICH THE PUBLIC HAS READY ACCESS.
- (C) "RETAIL STORE" MEANS ANY ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYING 20 OR MORE FULL-TIME PERSONS WHOSE PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO SELL TO CONSUMERS ANY GOODS, WARES, FOOD FOR CONSUMPTION OFF THE PREMISES, OR MERCHANDISE.
- (D) "SMOKING" MEANS THE ACT OF SMOKING OR CARRYING A BURNING:
 - (1) CIGAR;