

**Article 25 - County Commissioners**

3D.

(a) (3) (I) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY ANTICOMPETITIVE EFFECT, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SOMERSET COUNTY MAY GRANT ~~ONE OR MORE FRANCHISES~~ A FRANCHISE FOR A FERRY COMPANY TO OPERATE ~~FROM BETWEEN SOMERSET COUNTY AND REEDVILLE, VIRGINIA ON A NONEXCLUSIVE~~ AN EXCLUSIVE BASIS.

(II) BEFORE GRANTING A FRANCHISE ~~FOR~~ TO A FERRY COMPANY, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SOMERSET COUNTY SHALL REVIEW THE PROPOSED BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL PLAN ~~FOR~~ OF THE FERRY COMPANY.

(III) 1. THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SOMERSET COUNTY MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

2. REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER THIS SUBPARAGRAPH SHALL BE CONSISTENT WITH ANY REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION THAT RELATE TO FERRY COMPANIES.

(IV) 1. A FERRY COMPANY THAT IS GRANTED A FRANCHISE UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH HAS UP TO 18 MONTHS TO EXERCISE THE FRANCHISE.

2. IF THE FERRY COMPANY HAS NOT EXERCISED THE FRANCHISE AFTER 18 MONTHS FROM THE DATE IT WAS GRANTED, THE FRANCHISE SHALL BE NULL AND VOID.

~~(IV) (V) A FERRY COMPANY THAT IS GRANTED A FRANCHISE UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH MAY NOT CONDUCT ANY GAMBLING OR GAMING ACTIVITIES PROHIBITED UNDER THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE ON ANY FERRY THAT IT OPERATES UNDER THE FRANCHISE.~~

~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the granting of a franchise under this Act may not be construed to prohibit or restrict the operation of any passenger ferry service between Crisfield and Smith Island or between Crisfield and Tangier Island that is in existence on the effective date of this Act.~~

SECTION ~~2. 2.~~ 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect ~~October~~ July 1, 2003.

Approved May 13, 2003.

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**CHAPTER 209**

**(House Bill 42)**

AN ACT concerning

**Somerset County - Ferry Companies - Franchises**  
**Company - Franchise**