

CHAPTER 67

(House Bill 474)

AN ACT concerning

State Fire Marshal – Fireworks and Explosives – Fees

FOR the purpose of altering certain permit and license fees associated with fireworks and explosives that are collected by the State Fire Marshal.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 38A – Fires and Investigations

Section 16(a), 18(a), 19(a), and 32

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1990 Replacement Volume and 1991 Supplement)

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

Article 38A – Fires and Investigations

16.

(a) (1) It is unlawful for any person to discharge fireworks without a permit issued pursuant to this subtitle, or to possess fireworks, either with the intention of discharging or permitting the discharge thereof in violation of this subtitle, or for the purpose of disposal or sale to persons for use or discharge without a permit, where a permit is required by this subtitle. The fee for this permit is **[\$10]** \$50.

(2) The permit fee requirement of paragraph (1) of this subsection does not apply to a volunteer fire department or volunteer ambulance and rescue company.

18.

(a) (1) The State Fire Marshal may grant special permits for display of fireworks in places where the discharge thereof will otherwise be legal. The permit shall not authorize the holder thereof to possess or discharge fireworks in violation of any ordinance or regulation in effect where the display is to be made and shall not relieve the applicant from also obtaining any additional license or authority which may be required by the governing body in that locality. All applications for permits for public display as herein provided shall be made at least 10 days in advance of the date of display. The fee for this permit is **[\$10]** \$50. The permit shall be nontransferable, and shall be granted only after the State Fire Marshal has determined that the proposed display will not endanger the health or safety of persons in the locality, or cause injury to property belonging to others, and that the display of fireworks will be under the supervision of experienced and qualified persons who have previously secured written authority from the State Fire Marshal. Prior to granting the permit, the State Fire Marshal shall require the applicant to furnish a surety bond with corporate surety to be approved by him in an amount the State Fire Marshal prescribes, or an approved liability and property damage