

relating to repeal of certain Sunday Blue Laws in Wicomico County.

BY repealing

Article 27 – Crimes and Punishments

Section 494, 495, 496, and 500(f)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1987 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 27 – Crimes and Punishments

[494.

This section only applies to Wicomico County. No person whatsoever shall work or do any bodily labor on the Lord's day, commonly called Sunday; and no person having children or servants shall command, or wittingly or willingly suffer any of them to do any manner of work or labor on the Lord's day (works of necessity and charity always excepted), nor shall suffer or permit any children or servants to profane the Lord's day by gaming, fowling, hunting, or unlawful pastime or recreation. Every person transgressing this section and being hereof convicted shall forfeit five dollars, which, if the fine is imposed by a circuit court of any county, shall be applied to the use of the county or city as the case may be. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the provisions of this section shall not apply:

(1) To any person who conscientiously believes that the seventh day of the week ought to be observed as the Sabbath and who actually refrains from secular business and labor on that day, and whose business establishment or establishments or employer's business establishment or establishments (whether a sole proprietorship, partnership or corporation) are actually closed on that day; or

(2) To any person who conscientiously believes that the Sabbath begins at sundown on Friday night and ends at sundown on Saturday night and who actually refrains from secular business and labor during such period, and whose business establishment or establishments or employer's business establishment or establishments (whether a sole proprietorship, partnership or corporation) are actually closed during such period.]

[495.

(a) This section only applies in Wicomico County. A person may not sell, dispose of, barter, or deal in, or give away any articles of merchandise on Sunday, except retailers, who may sell and deliver on the day tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, candy, sodas and soft drinks, ice, ice cream, ices and other confectionery, milk, bread, fruits, vegetables, gasoline, gasohol, oils and greases.

(b) Any person violating any one of the provisions of this section shall be liable to indictment in any court in this State having criminal jurisdiction, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined a sum of not less than twenty nor more than fifty dollars, in the