

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 677 (Senators Hughes and Hoffman)
Economic and Environmental Affairs

Baltimore City - Alcoholic Beverages (Small Containers - Prohibited Sale)

This bill prohibits alcoholic beverages licensees in the “Upper Charles Village Area” in Baltimore City from selling (1) alcoholic beverages that are in containers of a pint or less in size, except for brewed beverages; and (2) brewed beverages in any single container, no matter what the size.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. Baltimore City could monitor licensees in the Upper Charles Village Area with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal effect on small businesses as discussed below.

Fiscal Analysis

Small Business Effect: In 1996 the Baltimore City Board of License Commissioners issued approximately 1,500 alcoholic beverages licenses. Although the number of licensees in the Upper Charles Village Area is unknown, the majority of them would be small businesses. The bill prohibits licensees in the village area from selling alcoholic beverages that are in containers of a pint or less (except for brewed beverages) and brewed beverages in a single container of any size. To the extent that customers who would otherwise purchase alcoholic beverages in these small containers stop making these purchases, small business operations could be impacted through lower sales. However, it is expected that the operations of a majority of the licensees would not be impacted. While some customers may stop purchasing alcoholic beverages at these businesses, other customers would alter their purchasing habits by buying alcoholic beverages in multiple containers or in containers that exceed a pint.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City, Department of Fiscal Services

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