

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2011 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 541 (Montgomery County Delegation)
Economic Matters

**Montgomery County - City of Takoma Park - Alcoholic Beverages - Class B On-
and Off-Sale License
MC 6-11**

This bill adds an off-sale privilege to Class B beer and light wine licenses issued for hotels and restaurants in the City of Takoma Park. The bill also requires that applicants for these licenses be approved by the Takoma Park City Council before the Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners may issue the license.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2011.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. There is no fee associated with the new off-sale privilege for Class B beer and light wine, hotel and restaurant licenses, therefore Montgomery County revenues are not affected. Any coordination between the Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners and the Takoma Park City Council to ensure compliance with the bill's provisions can be handled with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful for a hotel or restaurant that obtains a Class B beer and light wine, hotel and restaurant license in the City of Takoma Park.

Analysis

Current Law: A Class B beer and light wine, hotel and restaurant license in the City of Takoma Park has on-sale privileges only. The Takoma Park City Council is not currently

required to approve applicants prior to a license being issued by the Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners.

Small Business Effect: According to the Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners, there are currently no establishments with a Class B beer and light wine, hotel and restaurant license within the City of Takoma Park. If a restaurant or hotel applies for such a license in the future, the license will now allow for the sale of beer and wine for off-premises consumption. If licenses with the new off-sale privilege are issued, there may be a decrease in sales for holders of other classes of off-sale licenses, as patrons of hotels and restaurants will then have the option of purchasing beer or wine directly from the hotel or restaurant instead of going to another location.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): City of Takoma Park, Montgomery County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 24, 2011
mlm/hlb

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