

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2011 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 467

(Carroll County Senators)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

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Carroll County - Alcoholic Beverages - Liquor Tasting

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This bill authorizes the Carroll County Board of License Commissioners to issue a liquor tasting license to a holder of a Class A beer, wine, and liquor licensee. A liquor tasting license allows the licensee to provide liquor to customers up to a one-half ounce from a single sample and up to five samples in a day at no charge. The annual license fee is \$100 and is valid for not more than 52 days a year.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2011.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Carroll County alcoholic beverages license fee revenues increase by approximately \$2,000 annually beginning in FY 2012. This estimate assumes that 50% of eligible licensees purchase a liquor tasting license. Expenditures are not affected.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential meaningful. Holders of Class A beer, wine, and liquor licenses in Carroll County may realize increased sales resulting from the use of the tasting license.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** In Carroll County, the holder of a beer, wine, and liquor or a beer and wine license may be issued a wine tasting license and a beer tasting license. The annual fee for each license is \$100.

**Local Revenues:** In fiscal 2010, Carroll County issued 40 Class A beer, wine, and liquor licenses and one Class A beer and wine license. The county has issued 13 beer tasting permits and 25 wine tasting permits to these licensees.

Assuming half of eligible licensees obtain a liquor tasting license, Carroll County revenues will increase by \$2,000 annually (20 licensees x \$100). Actual revenues may vary depending on the number of licensees that purchase a liquor tasting license.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 279 (Carroll County Delegation) - Economic Matters.

**Information Source(s):** Carroll County, Comptroller's Office, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 20, 2011  
ncs/hlb

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Analysis by: Erik P. Timme

Direct Inquiries to:  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510