

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2011 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1218
Economic Matters

(Frederick County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Frederick County - Beer, Wine and Liquor Tasting License

This bill authorizes the Frederick County Board of License Commissioners to issue a beer, wine, and liquor tasting (BWLTL) license to the holder of a Class A beer, wine, and liquor license. A BWLTL license allows the licensee to provide samples of up to one-half ounce of liquor from a given brand and up to 1.5 ounces from all brands by any one person in a single day for tasting. The limitations on the consumption of beer and wine allowed under beer and wine tasting licenses apply. The board may set the annual fee for the BWLTL license.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2011.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Frederick County alcoholic beverages license fee revenues increase minimally beginning in FY 2012 from issuance of BWLTL licenses. The amount of revenues depends on the fee established by the Board of License Commissioners and the number of applicants.

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

Analysis

Current Law: In Frederick County, the holder of a Class A license may be issued a beer and wine sampling or tasting (BWST) license. The Class BWST license may allow an individual to consume up to one ounce of a given brand of light wine and not more than three ounces of a given brand of beer. The annual fee for the BWST license is \$200 annually.

Background: In 2010, the Frederick County Board of License Commissioners issued 89 Class A alcoholic beverages licenses and 30 BWST licenses. There were 50 Class A beer, wine, and liquor licenses issued in Frederick County in 2010.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Frederick County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 17, 2011
ncs/hlb Revised - House Third Reader - March 28, 2011

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