

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Revised

House Bill 1072  
Economic Matters

(Prince George's County Delegation)  
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

---

Alcoholic Beverages - City of Laurel - Sales by License Holders  
PG 308-13

---

This bill authorizes the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners to issue a license to sell alcoholic beverages in any building regardless of its distance from a place of worship in the City of Laurel. It also changes all references of a church to a place of worship in the bill.

---

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** None. The bill's requirements can be handled with existing budgeted resources.

**Small Business Effect:** Overall minimal, but potential meaningful for establishments that are able to obtain an alcoholic beverages license under the bill.

---

Analysis

**Current Law:** In Prince George's County, with certain exceptions, an alcoholic beverages license may not be granted to sell alcoholic beverages in any building located within 1,000 feet of a school building or within 500 feet of a place of worship. The distance must be measured from the front door or main entrance, whichever is nearest the street abutting the premises of the proposed licensed establishment along the nearest usual pedestrian route to the door closest to the licensed premises which is used as an entrance or exit to any school, or to the main entrance of the place of worship.

This restriction does not apply in the case of a church if the governing body of the church concerned consents in writing to the granting of the license. The consent must be filed with the application. The license of any person or persons or for the use of a corporation or unincorporated association issued for any building located within the requisite distance from a church or school building may be renewed or extended for the same building.

The restriction does not apply to any transfer or assignment of a license located within the distance of 1,000 feet to another place of business within the specified distance and/or to an assignee of the license within the distance of the same church or school building.

The restriction does not apply to the issuance of a license for a place of business, not having an alcoholic beverage license, to which an alcoholic beverage license had been issued and was in force and effect on June 1, 1965, as to a license of the same class which was in force and effect as of that date, applied for in the place of business nor to a renewal of a license of any establishment where, subsequent to the original granting of the license a school or church building was erected within 1,000 feet.

---

### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** A similar bill, SB 840 of 2012, passed the Senate, but received an unfavorable report by the House Economic Matters Committee.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** City of Laurel, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 21, 2013  
hnr/hlb Revised - House Third Reader - March 13, 2013

---

Analysis by: Heather N. Ruby

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