

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Revised

Senate Bill 420

(Senator Edwards)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

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Alcoholic Beverages - Garrett County - Beer Festival Licenses

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This bill alters beer festival licenses in Garrett County so that the holder of a beer festival license may display and sell at retail beer that was manufactured and processed *in any state*, instead of only beer that was manufactured and processed *in Maryland*. The bill also adds Class 8 farm brewery licensees to the list of license holders that are eligible for a beer festival license from the Garrett County Board of License Commissioners. A Class 8 farm brewery licensee must meet the same invoicing and beer delivery and return requirements as existing beer festival license holders.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2014.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** The bill's changes do not materially affect Garrett County finances.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal. A Class 8 farm brewery licensee benefits by being able to obtain a beer festival license. Small businesses that hold a beer festival license benefit by being able to sell beer that was manufactured and processed in any state.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** The Garrett County Board of License Commissioners may issue two beer festival licenses annually to a holder of a retail alcoholic beverages license issued by the board, a Class 5 brewery license, a Class 6 pub-brewery license, or a Class 7 micro-brewery license. The license entitles the holder to display and sell at retail beer

that is manufactured and processed in the State and distributed in the State when the application is filed, for consumption on or off the premises on the days and for the hours designated for a beer festival in Garrett County. The beer festival license fee is \$100.

For a product to be displayed and sold at a beer festival, a licensed State wholesaler or Class 5 brewery, Class 6 pub-brewery, or Class 7 micro-brewery must invoice the holder of the beer festival license and deliver the product to the beer festival from the licensed premises. Additionally, a licensed State wholesaler or Class 5 brewery, Class 6 pub-brewery, or Class 7 micro-brewery may enter into an agreement with the holder of the beer festival license to deliver beer two days before the festival and accept returns not later than two days after the end of the beer festival.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 19, 2014  
mc/lgc Revised - Enrolled Bill - April 14, 2014

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