

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 131
Economic Matters

(Montgomery County Delegation)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

**Montgomery County - City of Takoma Park - Alcoholic Beverages - Class B On-
and Off-Sale License
MC 18-14**

This bill repeals the June 30, 2014 termination date of Chapter 390 of 2012, which provided an off-sale privilege for Class B beer and light wine licenses issued for hotels and restaurants in the City of Takoma Park in Montgomery County.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2014.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Montgomery County revenues may increase to the extent that the repeal of the termination date results in any additional businesses acquiring a Class B beer and light wine license in the City of Takoma Park. Revenues increase by \$500 for each license application due to filing fees and by \$400 annually for each license issued.

Small Business Effect: Minimal overall, but potential meaningful for any business that obtains a Class B beer and light wine license in the City of Takoma Park as a result of this bill.

Analysis

Current Law: The Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners may only issue a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license if it is located in the second, third, fourth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, or thirteenth election districts. Unless specifically

authorized by law, a license may not be issued for restaurants or hotels in the towns of Poolesville, Takoma Park, or Kensington. Unless otherwise specified by law, a license may not be issued to any business located in Barnesville, Kensington, Laytonsville, Washington Grove, or Takoma Park.

A Class B beer and wine license allows the licensee to sell beer and wine at retail in a restaurant or hotel at the location described on the license. Chapter 390 of 2012 expanded the privileges conferred by a Class B beer and wine license that is issued in the City of Takoma Park to allow the licensee to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption off of the premises, in addition to sale for consumption on the premises. Because Chapter 390 terminates June 30, 2014, as of July 1, 2014, this license will lose the off-sale privilege, reverting to an on-sale privilege only.

Background: Montgomery County reports that there are currently no Class B beer and wine licenses issued the City of Takoma Park; however, there is interest from a food co-op to utilize the off-sale privilege offered by a Class B beer and wine license. The co-op is open, but still in the planning stages of acquiring the alcoholic beverages license. The City of Takoma Park reports that it would like to see another business come to the community, so the city has expressed interest in extending the off-sale privilege provided by Chapter 390 of 2012.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 302 (Montgomery County Senators) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 12, 2014
mc/lgc

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