

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2015 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 447

(Anne Arundel County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

City of Annapolis - Alcoholic Beverages - Election Days

This bill exempts the City of Annapolis from provisions of law that prohibit the selling or providing of alcoholic beverages on an election day during the hours when the polls are open in any election district or precinct where an election is being held.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2015.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill does not materially affect local government finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: An alcoholic beverages licensee may not sell or provide any alcoholic beverages on an election day during the hours when the polls are open in any election district or precinct where an election is being held. A person who violates this provision is subject to a fine of between \$50 and \$100 for each offense. However, on the day of an election, a restaurant that holds an alcoholic beverages license may provide alcoholic beverages for consumption only on the licensed premises. These provisions *only apply* in Talbot County and the City of Annapolis.

In Allegany County, a licensee may not sell or provide any alcoholic beverages on the day of any election during the hours the polls are open if the licensed premises is used as a polling place.

Background: In fiscal 2014, 98 alcoholic beverages licenses were in effect for locations in the City of Annapolis.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 89 (Senator Astle) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): Comptroller's Office, City of Annapolis, Anne Arundel County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 11, 2015
md/lgc

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