

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2016 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Enrolled - Revised

House Bill 995
Economic Matters

(Allegany County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Allegany County - Alcoholic Beverages - Sunday Sales

This bill alters the hours of sale, from 1 p.m. to 2 a.m. the following day to 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. the following day, for a holder of a Class D beer license; a Class D beer and light wine (BW) license; a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (BWL) license; and a Class D BWL license in Allegany County under specified circumstances. The bill also alters the hours of sale, from 1 p.m. to 2 a.m. the following day to 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. the following day, for a 2-day Sunday sales permit purchased by a holder of a Class D beer license, a Class D BW license, a Class B BWL license, and a Class D BWL license in Allegany County under specified circumstances.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2016.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill does not materially affect Allegany County operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: Minimal overall, but potential meaningful impact on licensees who are able to open earlier on Sundays and experience increased sales.

Analysis

Current Law: In Allegany County, under specified circumstances, a holder of a Class D beer license, a Class D BW license, a Class B BWL license, and a Class D BWL license may sell alcoholic beverages for on- or off-premises consumption between 7 a.m. and 2 a.m. the following day Monday through Saturday, and on Sunday between 1 p.m. and

2 a.m. the following day. Sunday sales may only occur if a holder was issued the underlying license for use in a restaurant in a permanent building with sufficient space where meals are usually prepared, sold, or served to the public when the restaurant is regularly open for business. The fee for the Sunday sales permit is \$250.

Specified license holders may also purchase, for a \$50 fee per use, a 2-day Sunday sales permit that authorizes the holder to sell alcoholic beverages in line with the underlying license for on-premises consumption on up to two Sundays a year from 1 p.m. to 2 a.m. the following day.

Background: In fiscal 2015, 157 alcoholic beverages licenses were issued in Allegany County, including 4 Class D beer licenses, 50 Class D BW licenses, 3 Class B BWL licenses, and 58 Class D BWL licenses.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 878 (Senator Edwards) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 19, 2016
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Analysis by: Nathan W. McCurdy

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