

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2017 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

Senate Bill 1010

(Harford County Senators)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

Harford County - Alcoholic Beverages - Publication of Notices

This bill requires the Harford County Board of License Commissioners to publish notice of a hearing for an alcoholic beverages license application two times in two successive weeks (1) in one newspaper of general circulation published in the county and (2) on the board's website. The bill also requires the board to publish its decision on an application for a new license, an upgrade of an existing license, or a change in location of an existing license (1) in one newspaper of general circulation published in the county and (2) on the board's website.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2017.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill is not anticipated to materially impact Harford County finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Generally, in the State, before a licensing board may approve an application for a license, the local licensing board must publish notice of the application two times in two successive weeks in two newspapers of general circulation in the jurisdiction or in one newspaper if only one newspaper of general circulation exists. The notice is required to include (1) the name of the applicant; (2) the type of license for which

the application is made; (3) the location described in the application; and (4) the date, time, and place of the hearing.

In Harford County, before a hearing for an application for a new license or an upgrade to an existing license, the board is also required to post a notice in a conspicuous location on the exterior of the location described in the application. The notice must be on a sign that measures at least 12 by 18 inches and include (1) the class of license for which the application is made; (2) the name of the applicant; and (3) the date, time, and location for the application hearing. The notice must remain posted for 20 days before the hearing.

The board is required to publish its decision on an application for a new license, an upgrade of an existing license, or a change of location of an existing license in two newspapers of general circulation published in the county. The decision must state the name of the license holder, the type of license, and the location of the premises.

Background: In fiscal 2016, 196 alcoholic beverages licenses were issued for use in Harford County.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 1008 (Harford County Delegation) - Economic Matters.

Information Source(s): Harford County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 22, 2017
mm/tso Third Reader - March 17, 2017
Revised - Amendment(s) - March 17, 2017

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