

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2017 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 987

(Delegate W. Miller, *et al.*)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Alcoholic Beverages - Direct Wine Shipper's Permit - Application and Renewal
Requirements

This bill requires a person that applies to obtain or renew a direct wine shipper's permit to identify the wines manufactured by the applicant that the applicant intends to ship into the State.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2017.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not materially affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: A person must be issued a direct wine shipper's permit by the Comptroller's Office before the person may engage in shipping wine directly to a consumer in the State. To qualify for a direct wine shipper's permit, the applicant must be (1) a person licensed outside the State to engage in the manufacture of wine; or (2) a holder of a State-issued Class 3 (winery) or Class 4 (limited winery) manufacturer's license. The permit fee is \$200.

The direct wine shipper must ensure that all containers of wine shipped directly to a consumer in the State are conspicuously labeled with (1) the name of the direct wine

shipper; (2) the name and address of the consumer who is the intended recipient; and (3) the words “Contains Alcohol; Signature of Person at Least 21 Years of Age Required for Delivery.” A direct wine shipper is prohibited from shipping more than 18 nine-liter cases of wine annually to a single delivery address or delivering wine on Sunday to an address in the State.

Background: The Comptroller’s Office advises that there are currently 914 direct wine shipper’s permits issued and approximately 826 are from out of State.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Comptroller’s Office; Department of Legislative Services

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