

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 471
Economic Matters

(Prince George's County Delegation)

Prince George's County - Alcoholic Beverages - Entertainment Permit -
Exception
PG 304-18

This bill establishes additional requirements for a “family entertainment” alcoholic beverages license holder in Prince George’s County to be eligible for exemption from obtaining an entertainment permit. If the Prince George’s County Board of License Commissioners determines the license holder meets specified seating, daily receipt, menu, price, and entertainment content requirements, no entertainment permit is required. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Establishing additional eligibility requirements for a family entertainment alcoholic beverages license holder to be exempt from obtaining an entertainment permit will not materially impact Prince George’s County’s operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary/Current Law: Chapter 613 of 2011 authorized the board to grant an exemption from the requirement of obtaining an entertainment permit to specified alcoholic beverages license holders, including license holders whose principle business is to provide family entertainment.

The bill establishes the following additional requirements for a license holder whose principal business is to provide family entertainment to be eligible for the entertainment permit exemption:

- the room in which the entertainment is to be performed must have a maximum seating capacity of 110;
- the establishment must allow underage persons to view the entertainment and will not offer “adults only” entertainment;
- the average daily receipts from the sale of food must be at least 60% of the total daily receipts from the sale of food and drink in the establishment;
- the establishment must offer the same menu, including appetizers, main course, and dessert, throughout the establishment and during the time when the entertainment is performed; and
- the prices for food and drink in the room where the entertainment is to be performed will not vary from the prices for food and drink offered elsewhere in the establishment.

Under current law, an alcoholic beverages license holder is not required to obtain an entertainment permit if the board determines that the licensee’s principal business is to provide family entertainment or if the license is issued under related provisions applicable to:

- a restaurant for an agricultural association, agricultural fair association, or any other association duly authorized to conduct racing under the provisions of the Maryland Horse Racing Act;
- a Class B/ECF license (beer, wine, and liquor), known as an “educational conference facility” license, to the University of Maryland, University College Center of Adult Education;
- a Class B-CI license (country inns);
- Class B-ECR license (Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission’s Equestrian Center);
- a Class B-ECF/DS beer, wine, and liquor on-sale license (Education Conference Facility/Dining Service license);
- a Class B beer, wine, and liquor stadium license;
- a Class B (TP) beer, wine, and liquor theme park license; or
- a Class B-CC (convention center) beer, wine, and liquor license.

An entertainment permit holder must meet all applicable county law requirements. A prohibition applicable to underage persons being allowed on the premises applies during the time the entertainment permit privileges are in use.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 15, 2018
mm/tso

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