

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader

House Bill 743

(Harford County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Harford County - Alcoholic Beverages - Per Diem Licenses

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This bill authorizes a simple majority of the members of the Harford County Board of License Commissioners to act to approve or deny an application for a per diem license under specified circumstances. The bill also prohibits the board from requiring the publication of an application for a per diem license as a prerequisite to issuing the license. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018.**

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

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

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Bill Summary:** The board may act to approve or deny an application for a per diem license (1) in a formal meeting, with a quorum present, or (2) through oral or written contact by any method by the chair with each member of the board. The chair must make a written record of how each member and the chair voted.

**Current Law:** Statute does not specify procedures for voting to approve per diem licenses. Generally, before holding a hearing for an application for a license, the board must publish notice of the application two times in two successive weeks in one newspaper of general circulation published in the county and on the board's website.

**Background:** In fiscal 2017, 202 alcoholic beverages licenses were issued for use in Harford County.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 7, 2018  
mm/tso Third Reader - March 13, 2018

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