

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 144

(Montgomery County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Montgomery County - Alcoholic Beverages - Country Club Off-Sale Permit
MC 10-18

This bill establishes a country club off-sale permit in Montgomery County. The Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners may issue the permit to the holder of a country club license and must set a fee for the permit, which is in addition to the annual fee for the country club license. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018.**

Fiscal Summary

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

Local Effect: Montgomery County revenues increase minimally based on the fee set by the board for the permit. Expenditures are not materially affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The country club off-sale permit only allows the sale of wine by the bottle for off-premises consumption (1) at a wine tasting event that takes place on the premises licensed by the country club licenses; (2) to a country club member, his or her immediate family member, certain guests, or an individual residing temporarily in the clubhouse of the country club; and (3) during the hours and days the country club license holder is allowed to sell beer, wine, and liquor. The permit holder may hold up to 12 tasting events each year but may not only hold more than 2 tasting events in a single month. A permit holder must notify the board in writing and on a form provided by the board at least 14 days before each tasting event.

Current Law: A country club license may be issued to a country club (1) that has at least 100 members; (2) whose members pay an annual total amount of dues that averages at least \$50 per member; and (3) that maintains a regular or championship golf course of at least nine holes. The license authorizes the sale of beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption by a club member, a member of the club member's immediate family, someone residing temporarily in the club's clubhouse, or a guest of a club member. The annual license fee is \$2,000.

Background: There are currently 15 country club licenses issued in Montgomery County.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 23, 2018
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