

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 1396
Economic Matters

(Baltimore County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Baltimore County - Alcoholic Beverages - Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor License

This bill repeals provisions of law regarding the issuance of a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (BWL) license in Baltimore County to an owner of a hotel that meets specified criteria. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. The bill codifies current practice.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: The board may issue a Class B BWL license to the owner of a hotel that (1) is in a building at least three stories tall that was originally constructed for hotel purposes; (2) has a capital investment of at least \$500,000; and (3) contains at least one passenger elevator, at least 100 rooms, and a dining room with facilities for preparing and serving regular meals for at least 125 individuals at one seating.

Class B BWL license authorizes the holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for consumption at a hotel or restaurant at the place described in the license, for on- or off-premises consumption. The area of the licensed premises normally used as a restaurant to prepare and consume food and beverages may occupy not less than 80% of the square footage,

unless the license holder has held the license since before December 31, 1966. The annual license fee is \$1,500.

Generally, in Baltimore County, a Class B BWL license may be issued to a hotel or a restaurant.

Background: In fiscal 2017, 781 alcoholic beverages licenses were issued for use in Baltimore County, including 335 Class B BWL licenses.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 14, 2018
md/tso Third Reader - March 20, 2018

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