

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2019 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 354

(Washington County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Washington County - Alcoholic Beverages - Wineries - Special Event Permits

This bill extends, in Washington County, the termination date of the special event permit established by Chapter 432 of 2017 from June 30, 2019, to December 31, 2020. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2019, and terminates December 31, 2020.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Washington County revenues increase by approximately \$1,000 in FY 2020 and 2021 due to permit fees. Washington County can handle any enforcement activity with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: The board may issue a special event permit to the holder of a Class 3 winery license or a Class 4 limited winery license. The permit authorizes the holder to sell, for on-premises consumption, beer, wine produced by the holder, and liquor at (1) an event for which the entire licensed premises has been rented or (2) an event approved by the board. A license holder must notify the board at least one week in advance of an event for which the holder plans to exercise the privileges of the permit. A license holder may use the permit up to 60 times in a year. The annual permit fee is \$1,000.

Pursuant to Chapter 432 of 2017, the board's authorization to issue special event permits is set to terminate June 30, 2019.

Local Fiscal Effect: The bill extends, from June 30, 2019, to December 31, 2020, the termination date of the special event permit. Accordingly, Washington County revenues increase by \$1,000 for each special event permit issued under the bill. Washington County advises that one special event permit is issued for use by a winery in the county. Assuming that, under the bill, the board renews the permit in fiscal 2020 and 2021, Washington County revenues increase by at least \$1,000 in fiscal 2020 and 2021 from permit fees.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 104 (Washington County Senators) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): Comptroller's Office; Washington County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 14, 2019
mm/tso Third Reader - March 26, 2019
Revised - Amendment(s) - March 26, 2019

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