

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 168

(Delegate Bridges, *et al.*)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Baltimore City - Alcoholic Beverages - Class B-D-7 License

This bill clarifies that the hours of sale for a Class B-D-7 license located in the area bounded by Liberty Heights Avenue, Northern Parkway, Druid Park Drive, and Wabash Avenue are from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2020.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. The bill is clarifying in nature.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The board may issue a Class B-D-7 license if it determines, upon consideration of the number of beer, wine, and liquor outlets in the affected area and the outlets' days of sale, that the license is reasonably necessary for public convenience. A Class B-D-7 license authorizes the licensee to sell beer, wine, and liquor for on- and off-premises consumption.

With specified exceptions, a Class B-D-7 licensee may sell beer, wine, and liquor from 6 a.m. to 2 a.m. the following day. For a Class B-D-7 licensee located in the area bounded by Liberty Heights Avenue, Northern Parkway, Druid Park Drive, and Wabash Avenue, the hours of sale are from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Chapter 601 of 2017 specified that the hours of sale for alcoholic beverages licensees located in the area bounded by Liberty Heights Avenue, Northern Parkway, Druid Park Drive, and Wabash Avenue (1) may not begin before 9 a.m. or end after 9 p.m. and (2) may not be extended if they begin later than 9 a.m. or end before 9 p.m. Chapters 754 and 755 of 2018 (1) exempted specified licensees from the hours of sale restriction and (2) extended the closing hour of sale to 10 p.m. for the remaining licensees to which the restriction applied.

Background: According to the Comptroller's Office, in fiscal 2019, there were 1,208 alcoholic beverages licenses issued in Baltimore City. Baltimore City advises that, as of December 2019, there were 398 active Class B-D-7 licenses in the city, including one active Class B-D-7 license in the geographic area affected by the bill.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: SB 181 (Senator Carter) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): Comptroller's Office; Baltimore City; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 27, 2020
md/tso Third Reader - March 5, 2020

Analysis by: Elizabeth J. Allison

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510