

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 288
Economic Matters

(Prince George's County Delegation)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Prince George's County - Alcohol Awareness
PG 301-20

This bill requires an alcoholic beverages license holder in Prince George’s County or an individual designated by the license holder who is employed in a supervisory capacity to be certified by an approved alcohol awareness program and be present on the licensed premises at all times when alcoholic beverages may be sold. The bill specifies that a license holder who violates the bill’s requirements is subject to a \$250 fine for a first offense and a \$500 fine for a second offense. For each subsequent offense, the license holder is subject to a fine up to \$1,000, or a suspension or revocation of the license, or both. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2020.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Prince George’s County can handle any additional enforcement activity with existing resources. Revenues are not materially affected.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Generally, for a premises that is licensed to sell alcoholic beverages with an off-sale privilege or a premises that is licensed with on-sale privileges and sells alcoholic beverages directly to a customer from a bar or service bar, the license holder or specified employees must complete training in an approved alcohol awareness program in order to obtain and retain their alcoholic beverages license. The training program must be approved

and certified by the Comptroller, and it must provide information on how alcohol affects a person's body and behavior, the dangers of drinking and driving, refusing service before a customer becomes intoxicated, and determining if a customer is old enough to legally consume alcohol. The training is valid for four years.

Background: In fiscal 2019, there were 616 alcoholic beverages licenses issued in Prince George's County.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 6, 2020
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