

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2021 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

Senate Bill 451

(Senator Edwards)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

Garrett County – Alcoholic Beverages Act of 2021

This bill removes the one-time issuing fees for new Class C (club and organization) beer, wine, and liquor licenses and new art establishment licenses issued in Garrett County. The bill also authorizes a Class C per diem beer, wine, and liquor license holder to purchase liquor, in addition to beer and wine, from a wholesaler. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2021.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. The bill clarifies current law, as discussed below.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary/Current Law:

License Issuance Fees

In Garrett County, there is a Class C (club and organization) beer, wine, and liquor license. Current law requires the board to charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee (\$1,500 for a six-day license or \$1,750 for a seven-day license). There is also an art establishment license, which has an annual license fee of \$205 and a one-time issuing fee for a new license of \$205. The bill repeals the one-time issuing fees for both types of licenses to conform with § 21-1406 of the Alcoholic

Beverages Article, which exempts a nonprofit license holder in Garrett County from paying an issuing fee for a new license, as specified.

Class C Per Diem Beer, Wine, and Liquor License

Under current law, a holder of a Class C per diem beer, wine, and liquor license in Garrett County may purchase beer and wine from a wholesaler, or beer, wine, and liquor from a retailer. The bill alters the statutory language and authorizes license holders to purchase beer, wine, and liquor from either a wholesaler or retailer.

Local Fiscal Effect: Garrett County advises that they currently do not charge an issuing fee to new Class C per diem beer, wine, and liquor licenses or new art establishment licenses issued in the county. Rather, the bill conforms the affected provisions of these licenses with § 21-1406 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article, which exempts a nonprofit license holder in Garrett County from paying an issuing fee for a new license, as specified.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: HB 632 (Delegate Beitzel) - Economic Matters.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 15, 2021
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Analysis by: Tyler Allard

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