

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2021 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader

House Bill 1016  
Economic Matters

(Delegate M. Fisher)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Calvert County - Alcoholic Beverages Licenses - Annual Fees

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This bill requires the Calvert County Board of License Commissioners to reimburse each license holder in the county the entire amount of the annual fee for any county license that authorizes the holder to sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption only at a bar or restaurant. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2021.**

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Calvert County expenditures increase by an indeterminate amount in FY 2022 only to the extent the county must reimburse specified annual license fees, as discussed below. Calvert County revenues are not affected. **This bill imposes a mandate on a unit of local government.**

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal. Small businesses with a license for on-premises consumption will receive a refund in the amount of their annual license fee.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** Generally, the payment of annual fees for a local alcoholic beverages license in the State is made to the local collecting agent, and these fees are then remitted to the county, as specified. An alcoholic beverages license holder is generally not entitled to a refund on the unearned portion of the license fee. However, refunds are authorized by State law if (1) the license holder goes into bankruptcy; (2) the license holder dies; (3) the license holder volunteers for or is drafted into the United States' or an organized State militia; (4) the license holder surrenders the license and receives a new license of another

class carrying a higher fee; (5) the license holder is found guilty of a crime and the license is revoked; (6) the issuance of the license by a local licensing board is reversed upon judicial review and the establishment is prohibited; or (7) the licensed premises is taken by the federal government, the State, or municipality for public use.

**Local Expenditures:** Sufficient information was not available from Calvert County to complete a full fiscal analysis. The bill requires the board to reimburse each license holder in the county the entire amount of the annual fee for any county license that authorizes the holder to sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption only at a bar or restaurant. Therefore, Calvert County expenditures increase by an indeterminate amount in fiscal 2022 only to the extent the county must reimburse specified annual license fees under the bill.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 18, 2021  
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