

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 712 (Harford County Delegation)
Economic Matters

Harford County - Alcoholic Beverages - Multiple Licenses - Golf Simulator
Facilities

This bill authorizes the Harford County Board of License Commissioners to issue a Class GSF (golf simulator facility) alcoholic beverages license to the holder of one or more Class B licenses. A Class GSF license must be included in the total number of nine Class B licenses that may be issued to the same person in Harford County. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill does not materially affect Harford County finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: In Harford County, no person may be issued more than nine Class B alcoholic beverages licenses.

Class Golf Simulator Facility License

Chapters 1009 and 1010 of 2024 established the Class GSF alcoholic beverages license in Harford County. The board may issue the license for use by a golf simulator facility that is (1) open to the public; (2) features at least five golf simulator bays; and (3) has accommodations that are predominantly dedicated to golf simulator bays and seating for

those bays. The license authorizes the licensee to sell beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption so long as the licensee offers food on site at all times when alcoholic beverages are being sold. The annual license fee is \$1,500.

An applicant for a Class GSF license must submit a floor plan or layout of the proposed licensed premises to the board. The floor plan or layout must illustrate that the proposed licensed premises is predominantly dedicated to golf simulator bays and has seating dedicated to those bays. Additionally, a licensee's annual gross sales from alcoholic beverages must not exceed 35% of the licensee's annual gross sales. Golf simulator bay rental fees and food sales must comprise, respectively, at least 50% and 15% of the licensee's annual gross sales. Before the board may renew a Class GSF alcoholic beverages license, the licensee must provide the board with an annual gross sales report showing that the licensee has met the specified minimum gross sales percentages for golf simulator bay rental fees and food sales and stayed under the specified maximum gross sales percentage for alcoholic beverages.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: SB 746 (Senator Gallion) - Finance.

Information Source(s): Harford County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 31, 2025
km/tso

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