

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

Senate Bill 636

(Senator M. Washington)(By Request - Baltimore City
Administration)

Finance

Government, Labor, and Elections

Baltimore City - Alcoholic Beverages Licenses - Revisions

This bill repeals the deadline by which holders of a Class A beer and light wine license or a Class A beer, wine, and liquor (BWL) license must pay a supplementary license fee to exercise certain Sunday sales privileges. The bill also alters the annual deadline from October 30 to March 30 for an alcoholic beverages license holder in Baltimore City to present to the Baltimore City Board of Liquor License Commissioners a certificate that shows that all personal property taxes due to the city or State have been paid. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill is not expected to materially affect Baltimore City finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: In Baltimore City, the Class A beer and light wine license authorizes the license holder to sell beer and light wine, at retail, in a sealed package or container. The package or container may not be opened or its contents may not be consumed on the premises where the beer or light wine is sold. The annual license fee is \$171.

The Class A BWL license authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor, at retail, in a sealed package or container. The package or container may not be opened or its contents consumed on the license premises. The annual license fee is \$2,060.

A holder of a Class A beer and light wine license or a Class A BWL license may sell beer and light wine on the Sundays that fall between Thanksgiving Day and New Year's Day, from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. so long as the license holder has paid, by September 30 of that year, a supplementary license fee of \$120 for each Sunday the privilege is to be exercised.

The board must immediately suspend without a hearing the renewal license of an alcoholic beverages license holder that fails to present to the board by October 30 annually a certificate issued by the Director of Finance showing that all personal property taxes due to the city or State are paid.

Additional Information

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

Designated Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 17, 2026
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