

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 832 (Delegate D. Hughes)
Economic Matters

Wicomico County - Alcoholic Beverages
(Underage Sales and Class C Licensees)

This bill prohibits a person under age 18 from selling alcoholic beverages in any licensed establishment in Wicomico County. Violators are subject to the penalties under existing law of a fine not exceeding \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not exceeding two years. The bill also exempts certain alcoholic beverages licensees from the prohibition on nudity and sexual displays. This exemption applies to licensees who hold Class C licenses and temporary Class C licenses for beer and light wine and beer, wine, and liquor.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential minimal increase in general fund revenues and expenditures due to the applicable penalty provision.

Local Effect: Potential minimal increase in Wicomico County revenues and expenditures due to the applicable penalty provision.

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: General fund revenues could increase under the applicable monetary penalty provision depending upon the number of convictions and fines imposed.

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures could increase as a result of the applicable incarceration penalty due to more people being committed to a Division of Correction (DOC) facility and increased payments to Wicomico County for reimbursement of inmate costs, depending upon the number of convictions and sentences imposed.

Persons serving a sentence longer than one year are incarcerated in a DOC facility. In fiscal

1997 the average monthly cost per inmate is estimated at \$1,400.

Persons serving a sentence of one year or less are sentenced to a local detention facility. The State reimburses counties for part of their per diem rate after a person has served 90 days. State per diem reimbursements for fiscal 1997 are estimated to be \$10 per inmate in Wicomico County.

Local Revenues: Wicomico County revenues could increase under the applicable monetary penalty provision for those cases heard in the circuit court, depending upon the number of convictions and fines imposed.

Local Expenditures: Wicomico County expenditures could increase as a result of the applicable incarceration penalty depending upon the number of convictions and sentences imposed. Wicomico County pays the full cost of incarceration for people in their facilities for the first 90 days of the sentence, plus part of the per diem cost after 90 days. Per diem operating costs of the Wicomico County Department of Corrections are expected to be \$19 per inmate in fiscal 1997.

Information Source(s): Wicomico County, Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 29, 1996

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