

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 730 (Senator Ruben, *et al.*)
(Montgomery County Administration)
Economic and Environmental Affairs

Alcoholic Beverages - Conference Centers - Stadium Authority

This bill authorizes a board of license commissioners to issue a special Class B license for any conference center (1) that is physically connected to an adjacent hotel and jointly owned, operated, or financed by the Maryland Stadium Authority and a political subdivision or an instrumentality of that subdivision; and (2) that provides food and beverages to registered guests at the hotel. The annual license fee is \$2,500. If a jurisdiction has a food-to-alcoholic beverage ratio requirement for a Class B hotel and restaurant license, those laws apply to the special Class B license.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Upon completion, the Montgomery County Conference Center would be the only facility in the State that would qualify for the special Class B license. Thus, Montgomery County revenues would increase by \$2,500 due to the license fee. Revenues could also increase due to more profits being generated by the center through the sale of alcoholic beverages. The increase cannot be reliably estimated. The board of license commissioners could monitor the licensee with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal effect on small businesses as discussed below.

Fiscal Analysis

Small Business Effect: Upon completion, the Montgomery County Conference Center would be the only facility that would qualify for the special Class B license. The issuance of a Class B license to the center would not significantly increase the volume of alcoholic

beverages distributed and sold in the State. Although certain wholesalers could benefit from the additional distribution of alcoholic beverages, the majority would continue with their normal operations. The conference center's management company could also benefit depending upon the contractual arrangement with the center. If the company receives a percentage of the center's revenues, its revenues could increase due to the additional profits generated by the sale of alcoholic beverages.

Information Source(s): Maryland Stadium Authority, Montgomery County, Department of Fiscal Services

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