

Department of Fiscal Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 852 (Prince George’s County Delegation)  
Economic Matters

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Prince George’s County - Alcoholic Beverages  
(Beer to Beer and Wine Licenses)  
PG 308-97

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This bill converts Class A, Class B, Class C, and Class D beer licenses in Prince George’s County to the same classes of beer and light wine licenses on October 1, 1997. The four classes of beer licenses will no longer exist on October 1, 1997. The bill also increases the maximum number of beer and light wine licenses that the Board of License Commissioners can issue in the county.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** To the extent that the conversion of the beer licenses results in an increase in the number of licenses currently issued by the Prince George’s County Board of License Commissioners, county revenues could increase by \$13,200 annually.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal effect on small businesses as discussed below.

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Fiscal Analysis

**Local Revenues:** In 1996 Prince George’s County issued 88 beer licenses and 96 beer and light wine licenses. Under the bill, the Board of License Commissioners could issue up to 239 beer and light wine licenses. Thus, the board could potentially issue 55 additional licenses. If these licenses are issued, revenues could increase by \$13,200 annually as shown below.

Type of License	Maximum - Current	Annual License Fee	Revenue Increase

Class A beer and light wine	45 - 19	\$200	\$5,200
Class B beer and light wine	52 - 51	\$300	\$300
Class C beer and light wine	11 - 4	\$200	\$1,400
Class D beer and light wine	131 - 110	\$300	\$6,300
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$13,200</b>

**Small Business Effect:** In 1996 Prince George's County issued 88 beer licenses and 96 beer and light wine licenses. Although the number of such licensees that are small businesses is unknown, a vast majority would fall into that category. Since the Board of License Commissioners could potentially issue 55 additional licenses, it could result in the creation of new small businesses in Prince George's County. At the same time, issuing additional licenses could increase competition for current licensees.

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**Information Source(s):** Prince George's County, Department of Fiscal Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 12, 1997

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