

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 865 (Senator Conway)
Economic and Environmental Affairs

Alcoholic Beverages - Mandatory Identification

This bill requires a person to show a state-issued form of identification, such as a driver's license or age of majority card, before alcoholic beverages may be served or purchased. Violators are subject to applicable penalties of a fine not exceeding \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not exceeding two years.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential minimal revenue increase for the Transportation Trust Fund. No effect on expenditures. Potential minimal general fund revenue and expenditure increase due to the applicable penalties.

Local Effect: Potential minimal revenue and expenditure increase due to the applicable penalties. Board of license commissioners could monitor alcoholic beverages licensees with existing resources.

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

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: The Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) currently collects a \$10 fee for identification (ID) cards. In fiscal 1996 the MVA issued 64,013 ID cards, of which 52,564 were new cards issued for \$10 each, and 11,449 were cards issued gratis to physically impaired persons and persons over the age of 65. Under the bill's provisions, a person must present a state-issued form of identification before alcoholic beverages will be served or purchased. Assuming this means a Maryland-issued form of identification, as opposed to one issued in another state, special fund revenues could increase. If the number of ID cards issued by the MVA increases, Transportation Trust Fund revenues would increase by \$10 for

each ID card issued.

Small Business Effect: There are approximately 6,900 retail alcoholic beverages licensees in the State. The bill requires customers to show a state-issued form of identification before alcoholic beverages can be served or purchased. Assuming this means a Maryland-issued form of identification, small business licensees could be affected. Since many customers do not have a Maryland-issued form of identification, small business licensees that comply with the bill's provisions would be negatively affected through fewer sales of alcohol beverages. However, if "state-issued" means any state's form of identification, the impact would be minimal. Only visitors from other countries would be prohibited from buying alcoholic beverages.

Information Source(s): Office of the Comptroller, Baltimore City, Garrett and Prince George's counties, Department of Fiscal Services

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Analysis by: Thomas Himler

Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710