Department of Fiscal Services

Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 967 (Montgomery County Delegation) Economic Matters

Montgomery County - Alcoholic Beverages (Bowling Alleys - Class H Beer and Wine) MC 731-97

This bill allows a bowling alley to be issued a Class H beer and light wine license in Montgomery County. Currently, bowling alleys may only receive a Class H beer license.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Potential minimal revenue increase for Montgomery County as discussed below. No effect on expenditures.

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

Fiscal Analysis

Local Revenues: The bill allows a bowling alley to be issued a Class H beer and light wine license in Montgomery County. Currently, bowling alleys may only receive a Class H beer license. There are four Class H beer licenses issued to bowling alleys. If the bill's provisions lead to more bowling alleys seeking Class H beer and light wine licenses, revenues could increase by \$400 per license. Since the license fees (\$400) for Class H beer and beer and light wine licenses are the same, revenues would not be affected by a switch in a license from beer to beer and light wine.

Small Business Effect: As mentioned above, there are four Class H beer licenses issued to

bowling alleys in Montgomery County. The vast majority of bowling alleys are small businesses. The bill allows a bowling alley to be issued a Class H beer and light wine license. Small business bowling alleys that hold Class H beer licenses could experience an increase in revenues due to the additional sale of wine, while bowling alleys that currently do not hold licenses would benefit from the sale of beer and wine. New licensees would also experience a minimal increase in costs due to the license fee (\$400). The issuance of more licenses could alter the competitive marketplace in the county; some bowling alleys may benefit at the expense of others.

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

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Analysis by: Thomas Himler Direct Inquiries to:

Reviewed by: John Rixey John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710 (301) 858-3710