

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 999 (Prince George's County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Ref. to Economic & Environmental Affairs

Prince George's County - Alcoholic Beverages
(Multiple Class BLX Licenses)
PG 306-97

This amended bill increases the number of Class BLX licenses from four to six that the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners can issue to an individual or corporation, subject to certain conditions. A holder may be issued either a fifth or sixth Class BLX license only if the application for the license is filed at least one year after the date the holder was issued the fourth or fifth license. Before issuing a fifth or sixth license, the board (1) must consider the number of licensed establishments existing in the area surrounding the site; and (2) may issue the additional license only if the establishment will enhance the recreational, business, and economic development of the area.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Prince George's County revenues could increase by an indeterminate minimal amount as discussed below. The Board of License Commissioners could issue the additional licenses within existing resources.

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

Fiscal Analysis

Local Revenues: To the extent that holders of Class BLX licenses obtain two additional licenses, Prince George's County revenues could increase due to the additional annual license fees and the application fees. Currently, there are 37 Class BLX licenses. The annual license fee is \$2,500 and the initial application fee is \$700. At this time, the number of additional

licenses to be issued cannot be reliably determined; however, any revenue increase is expected to be minimal.

Small Business Effect: There are 37 Class BLX licenses in Prince George's County. 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 issue up to six Class BLX licenses to an individual or corporation, it could result in the creation of new small businesses in Prince George's County. At the same time, raising the limit on the number of Class BLX licenses could increase competition for current licensees.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 11, 1997

brd Revised - House Third Reader - March 31, 1997

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