

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE  
Revised

Senate Bill 711 (Senator Della)  
Economic and Environmental Affairs

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**Baltimore City - Alcoholic Beverages - Bottle Clubs**

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This bill requires owners and employees of bottle clubs to be certified by an alcohol awareness program that is approved by the Comptroller's Office. The program provider is required to inform the board of license commissioners within five days after a certificate of completion is sent to the owner or employee. Failure to inform the board could result in the program being decertified by the Comptroller's Office.

The bill also prohibits "bottle clubs" in Baltimore City from serving or allowing alcoholic beverages to be consumed after legal closing hours. Violators are subject to a fine not to exceed \$10,000 or imprisonment for up to two years, or both.

In addition, bottle clubs are required to be registered with the Baltimore City Liquor Control Board.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The civil\criminal penalties of this bill are not expected to significantly affect State finances or operations.

**Local Effect:** The civil\criminal penalties of this bill are not expected to significantly affect Baltimore City finances or operations. Baltimore City advises that revenues would not be affected because there would be no fee for registering with the liquor control board. The Board of License Commissioners could monitor bottle clubs with existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential meaningful effect on small businesses.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**Small Business Effect:** Although the number of bottle clubs operating in Baltimore City is unknown, all would fall into the category of a small business. The bill's requirements would negatively impact those establishments which would no longer be permitted to serve or allowed to be served alcoholic beverages after legal closing hours.

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**Information Source(s):** Baltimore City, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 9, 1998  
Inc Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 25, 1998

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