

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 301 (Delegate Barve. *et al.*)

Economic Matters

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**Municipal Corporations - Authority to Regulate the Possession or Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages in Public Places**

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This bill authorizes the governing body of a municipal corporation to adopt ordinances or resolutions to regulate the possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages in specified “public places” within the municipality’s boundaries. Under current law, possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages in public areas is regulated by State and county law.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Municipal expenditures and revenues could increase by a minimal amount. The bill would not directly affect county operations or finances.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**Local Effect:** Should a municipality enact an ordinance or resolution regulating possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages in public places, expenditures for enforcement could increase. In addition, any monetary penalties that may be established for a violation could increase municipal revenues. Any potential increase in expenditures or revenues cannot be determined at this time but is assumed to be minimal.

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**Information Source(s):** Montgomery, Prince George’s, and Somerset counties; City of

Laurel; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 25, 1999

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Analysis by: Thomas P. Hickey

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 946-5510

(301) 970-5510