

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Revised

House Bill 574 (Delegate Barve)
Economic Matters

Alcoholic Beverages - Suppliers and Wholesalers - Stale Malt Products

This emergency bill allows a supplier to enter into an agreement with a wholesaler or authorized representative to replace stale or out-of-date malt beverages on licensed retail premises in counties that maintain liquor dispensaries. In counties with liquor dispensaries, the county acts as a wholesaler. The replacement would be on a case-for-case basis, at the supplier's expense, and under a plan submitted to and approved by the State Comptroller. If a wholesaler refuses to replace a stale or expired product, the supplier may unilaterally submit a replacement plan to the State Comptroller for approval. The plan may designate an authorized representative or wholesaler, outside the territory of the wholesaler that refuses to participate in the plan, to replace the stale or out-of-date malt beverage products. Under current law, a licensed retailer may only have a malt product that is stale or out-of-date replaced by a wholesaler.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Allowing a supplier to replace stale or out-of-date malt products on licensed retail premises would not affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: None. Local boards of license commissioners could monitor licensees with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Fiscal Analysis

Background: Out of the four counties that maintain liquor dispensaries, Montgomery County is the only one that is authorized to sell beer in addition to liquor and wine.

Information Source(s): Comptroller's Office, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 17, 1999

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Revised - House Third Reader - March 23, 1999

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