

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 598 (Senator Dvson)  
Economic and Environmental Affairs

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**St. Mary's County - Alcoholic Beverages - Bottle Clubs**

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This bill repeals current law relating to prohibitions against “bottle clubs” in St. Mary's County. The bill prohibits a bottle club from selling, giving, serving, dispensing, keeping, or allowing to be consumed alcoholic beverages, setups, or other component parts. The bill also prohibits an unlicensed business from allowing customers to bring alcoholic beverages for consumption into an unlicensed building. A violation of these provisions is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000. There is currently one bottle club operating in St. Mary's County.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** The monetary penalty provision of this bill is not expected to significantly affect St. Mary's County finances.

**Small Business Effect:** Meaningful impact on a small business. The bill's prohibitions would negatively impact one establishment because it would no longer be permitted to allow patrons to bring alcoholic beverages into the establishment. This may result in the business being forced to close.

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**Information Source(s):** St. Mary's County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 11, 1999

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