

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 492 (Delegate Conway, *et al.*)

Economic Matters

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Wicomico County - Alcoholic Beverages - Wine Tasting and Sampling

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This bill establishes a WT (wine tasting) license in Wicomico County, available to the holder of a Class A beer and wine (off sale) license for \$150 per year. A WT licensee may hold wine tasting events on up to 15 days during the year provided that the Wicomico County Board of License Commissioners is notified in writing at least five days in advance of each wine tasting day. At an event, the WT licensee may open no more than six brands of wine at any one time and may allow customers to sample one ounce of each brand. The WT license is for on-premises consumption only, and wine sampling may not be conducted from a drive-through window.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Annual Wicomico County revenues would increase by \$150 for each WT license issued. There would be no application fee for the license. The Board of License Commissioners of Wicomico County could monitor licensees with existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** There is no wine tasting license in Wicomico County, though several Maryland counties have some version of the license.

**Local Revenues:** Wicomico County revenues would increase by \$150 for each WT license issued. The county expects that about ten Class A beer and wine licensees per year will

apply for and receive the licenses, raising annual revenues by \$1,500. Due to the October 1, 2000 effective date, the first licenses could be issued in fiscal 2001.

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Wicomico County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 2, 2000  
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