

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 133 (Senator Della)
Economic and Environmental Affairs

Baltimore City - Alcoholic Beverages - Baltimore Wine Festival

This bill raises the fee for Baltimore Wine Festival (BWF) licenses from \$15 per festival to \$50 per day. It also specifies the number of days that the Baltimore City Board of Liquor License Commissioners can designate for a wine festival, allowing for Thursday through Sunday festivals.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Baltimore City revenues could increase by up to \$2,265 annually due to the increase in BWF licensing fees.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: The Baltimore City Board of Liquor License Commissioners may issue up to four special Baltimore Wine Festival (BWF) licenses per year, choosing four weekends per year on which to hold the festivals. The licensing fee is \$15 for the festival and no definition of weekend is given that specifies the number of days over which a festival may be held. Applicants for a BWF license must have a State Class 3 winery license or a State Class 4 winery license.

Background: Maryland wineries that participated in one or more of the 1999 Baltimore Wine Festivals are Basignani Winery, Boordy Winery, Elk Run Vineyards, and Woodhall

Wine Cellars.

Local Revenues: In 1999, Baltimore City held two four-day wine festivals and one three-day festival. Three wineries were issued licenses for each of the festivals, generating a total of \$135 in BWF licensing fees. Assuming the same number of festivals, days, and licenses for future years, Baltimore City revenues from BWF licensing fees would be \$1,650, an increase of \$1,515 over 1999. If Baltimore City issues three licenses for all four of the wine festivals that current law allows and each festival lasts the full four days, the city would generate \$2,400 in annual BWF licensing fees, an increase of \$2,265 over 1999.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 1, 2000
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Analysis by: Mark Collins

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510