

# Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2000 Session

## FISCAL NOTE

### Revised

Senate Bill 128 (Senator Della)

Economic and Environmental Affairs

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### Baltimore City - Alcoholic Beverages - Licenses

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This bill requires that the transfer of an alcoholic beverages license in Baltimore City be completed not more than 180 days after approval from the Board of Liquor License Commissioners is received. The bill also sets new procedures for a hardship extension that, if the application is approved by the board, could extend the life of an alcoholic beverages license up to 360 days following the cessation of alcoholic beverages business operations.

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### Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** The Board of Liquor License Commissioners of Baltimore City could monitor transfers and review hardship extension applications with existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential minimal.

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### Analysis

**Current Law:** In Baltimore City, there is no statutory time frame in which the approved transfer of an alcoholic beverages license must be completed. An alcoholic beverages license may be placed on deposit with the Board of Liquor License Commissioners for up to 180 days due to personal or financial hardship if the licensee has not been evicted from the licensed premises and the licensed premises is not being used for any other business purpose. The license will expire after 180 days unless an application for the transfer of the license or an application for permission to continue the business after the death of a licensee has been approved or is pending.

Commissioners to ensure that the transfer is completed within a reasonable time frame. The Board of Liquor License Commissioners reports that it usually has about 90 licenses on hold for hardship reasons.

**Small Business Effect:** Small businesses experiencing hardship could, with approval from the Board of Liquor License Commissioners, extend the life of a license by 360 days, 180 days longer than current law allows.

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### **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  
cm/jr Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 30, 2000

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Analysis by: Mark Collins

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