

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1402
Economic Matters

(Delegate C. Davis)

Baltimore City - Board of Liquor License Commissioners - Salaries

This bill increases the salary of the chairman of the Board of Liquor License Commissioners of Baltimore City from \$18,500 to \$25,000 and increases the salary of the other two commissioners from \$18,000 to \$24,500.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Baltimore City expenditures would increase by \$10,500 in FY 2003 and by \$21,000 each year thereafter.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The current salary of the chairman of the Board of Liquor License Commissioners of Baltimore City is \$18,500 and the other two members receive salaries of \$18,000. Salary adjustments for constitutional officers take effect at the beginning of the next term of office, which begins January 2003 for the Board of License Commissioners of Baltimore City.

Background: There is no uniformity to the structure and salaries of the persons responsible for regulating alcoholic beverages in different counties. For those counties that have a Board of License Commissioners and pay an annual salary, the salaries vary significantly. For example, in Caroline County the chair receives \$1,750 and the

members receive \$1,500 annually, while in Prince George's County the chair receives \$18,000 and the members receive \$17,000 annually. Queen Anne's and Howard counties compensate members on a per meeting basis. Other counties, such as Garrett County, do not have a separate Board of License Commissioners, but utilize the Board of County Commissioners for alcoholic beverage licensing. In St. Mary's County the salaries of the license commissioners are set by the county commissioners. In Allegany County the salaries of the license commissioners are set by the county commissioners based on the recommendations of the Allegany County Salary Study Commission.

The salaries of the members of the Board of License Commissioners of Baltimore City were last changed in 1991 (Chapter 113 of 1990) when the salary of the chair was increased from \$12,500 to \$18,500 and the salaries of the other two members were increased from \$12,000 to \$18,000. There are three board members, board members are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of Baltimore City's senators, board members serve two-year terms, terms are not staggered, and members only receive survivor benefits.

Local Fiscal Effect: Baltimore City expenditures would increase by \$10,496 in fiscal 2003, which reflects salary adjustments (\$9,750) and social security payments (\$746) for a six-month period (January 2003 – June 2003). Beginning in fiscal 2004, city expenditures would increase by \$20,992, which reflects annualization.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: This bill was introduced in the 2000 session as HB 1383. The bill received an unfavorable report from the House Economic Matters Committee.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 12, 2002
mam/hlb

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