

**Department of Legislative Services**

Maryland General Assembly

2002 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

**Revised**

Senate Bill 693

(Senator Colburn)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

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**Caroline County - Alcoholic Beverages - Golf Course Licenses**

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This bill establishes in Caroline County a Class GC 7-day (golf course) beer, wine, and liquor license that may be issued to a golf course or an organization that is open to the public, operated for profit, owns real estate in Caroline County, and has a golf course with a minimum of 18 holes. The annual license fee is set at \$1,600. The licensee is authorized to sell beer, wine, and liquor for consumption on the land and in the buildings, including the clubhouse, used for golfing purposes. A patron need not be seated to be served alcoholic beverages. The hours of sale are from 6 a.m. to 2 a.m. the following day Monday through Saturday and from 1 p.m. to 12 midnight on Sunday.

The bill is effective July 1, 2002.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Caroline County revenues would increase by \$1,600 for each Class GC 7-day (golf course) beer, wine, and liquor license issued. Expenditures would not be affected.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** There is no Class GC 7-day (golf course) beer, wine, and liquor license in Caroline County.

Currently nine counties (Carroll, Cecil, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, Washington, Wicomico, and Worcester) have specific liquor licenses for golf courses. The licenses in those counties vary in terms of the types of alcohol that can be sold, annual license fees, privileges, and hours of sale. The terms and conditions for a golf course alcoholic beverages license in Caroline County are virtually identical to those in current law for Cecil, Harford, Wicomico, and Worcester counties. The annual license fee for a golf course license is \$2,000 in Cecil County, \$2,200 in Harford and Wicomico counties, and \$2,625 in Worcester County. Additionally, the fees for a 7-day beer, wine, and liquor golf course licenses are \$1,250 in Washington County, and \$1,500 in Carroll and Howard counties. Montgomery and Prince George's counties offer beer and light wine golf course licenses.

**Background:** Caroline County advises that the license is needed for the county's first public golf course which is scheduled to open in calendar 2002. Caroline County advises that there is only one other golf course in Caroline County which is part of a private country club and they currently have a Class C (club) alcoholic beverages license.

**Local Fiscal Effect:** The number of licenses to be issued in Caroline County is unknown. However, assuming one license is issued, Caroline County revenues could increase by \$1,600 each fiscal year. Monitoring of golf course licensees could be handled with existing resources.

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### Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 494 (Caroline County Delegation) – Economic Matters.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 25, 2002  
lc/hlb Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 22, 2002

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