

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2003 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 275

(Senator Hafer)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

Garrett County - Micro-Breweries - Beer in Nonrefillable Containers

This bill authorizes the holder of a Class 7 micro-brewery (on- and off-sale) license in Garrett County to sell at retail beer brewed under the license to customers for consumption off-premises in nonrefillable containers.

The bill is effective June 1, 2003.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. This provision would not affect Garrett County finances.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: In Garrett County, a holder of a Class 7 micro-brewery (on- and off-sale) license may sell beer at retail to customers for consumption off-premises in refillable containers that are sealed by the micro-brewery at the time of each refill. Class 7 micro-breweries in Baltimore City, the City of Annapolis, and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Charles, Dorchester, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, and Talbot counties also have this privilege.

Background: In Maryland, a Class 7 micro-brewery is prohibited from producing more than 22,500 barrels of malt beverages annually and is authorized to sell up to 4,000 barrels of malt beverages for on-sale consumption each year.

A refillable container is defined as a glass bottle or other container with a replaceable cap or cover. A nonrefillable container is defined as a metal can or other container with a nonreplaceable cap or cover.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

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ncs/hlb

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