

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2003 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 146
Economic Matters

(Delegates Bozman and Conway)

Education, Health, and Environmental
Affairs

Worcester County - Alcoholic Beverages - Sunday Sales

This bill alters the authorized hours of sale on Sundays for alcoholic beverages licensees with 7-day sale privileges in Worcester County. The bill also repeals the prohibition on the sale of liquor on Sundays by Class B beer, wine, and liquor 7-day licensees and Class D beer, wine, and liquor 7-day licensees.

The bill is effective June 1, 2003.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Worcester County Liquor Control Board revenues could increase minimally due to additional sales as a result of expanded hours of sale on Sundays. Worcester County revenues could increase minimally due to an increase in the county's share of net profits from the Worcester County Liquor Control Board. Expenditures would not be materially affected.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary: This bill changes the authorized opening time on Sundays, from 12:30 p.m. to 9:00 a.m., for Class B beer 7-day licensees, Class D beer 7-day licensees, Class D beer and light wine 7-day licensees, Class B beer, wine, and liquor 7-day licensees, and

Class D beer, wine, and liquor 7-day licensees. The bill changes the authorized opening time on Sundays, from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m., for Class B beer and light wine 7-day licensees. The bill changes the authorized hours of sale on Sundays for Class C beer, wine, and liquor licensees from 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Monday to 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Monday. The bill also repeals the prohibition against the sale of liquor on Sundays by Class B beer, wine, and liquor 7-day licensees and Class D beer, wine, and liquor 7-day licensees.

Current Law: In Worcester County, alcoholic beverages licensees holding a Class B beer 7-day license, a Class D beer 7-day license, or a Class D beer and light wine 7-day license are authorized to sell alcoholic beverages for which they are licensed to sell on Sundays from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Monday. Alcoholic beverages licensees holding a Class B beer and light wine 7-day license are authorized to sell beer and wine on Sundays from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Monday. Alcoholic beverages licensees holding a Class C beer, wine, and liquor license are authorized to sell alcoholic beverages on Sundays from 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Monday. Alcoholic beverages licensees holding a Class B beer, wine, and liquor 7-day license or a class D beer, wine, and liquor 7-day license are authorized to sell beer and light wine only on Sundays from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Monday.

Background: The Worcester County Liquor Control Board is the alcoholic beverage wholesaler for retail alcoholic beverages licensees in Worcester County.

Small Business Effect: Small businesses who hold an alcoholic beverage license with Sunday sale privileges could be positively impacted by additional sales as a result of expanded hours of sale on Sundays.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 26, 2003
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