

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 591

(Prince George's County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

**Prince George's County - Nudity and Sexual Displays Restricted - Alcoholic
Beverages License Revocation**
PG 300-04

This bill adds Prince George's County to those jurisdictions which prohibit nudity and sexual displays in establishments with alcoholic beverages licenses. A violator's alcoholic beverages license must be revoked by the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners. The bill also exempts license holders that currently conduct such activity if they have received permission from the Board of License Commissioners to do so.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Enforcement of the bill's provisions and conducting license revocation hearings would not significantly affect Prince George's County finances.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Many local jurisdictions currently require an alcoholic beverages license to be revoked from establishments where nudity and sexual displays occur. These include Allegany, Anne Arundel, Calvert, Caroline, Carroll, Cecil, Charles, Dorchester, Frederick, Garrett, Harford, Kent, Queen Anne's, St. Mary's, Washington (with a limited exception), Wicomico, and Worcester counties.

Background: Prince George's County advises that, as of February 2004, 22 establishments licensed for alcoholic beverages in the county had exotic dancing. Prince George's County further advises that seven of those licensed establishments had received permission from the Board of License Commissioners to conduct exotic dancing on their premises and that those seven establishments would be exempt from the bill's provisions. The other 15 licensed establishments with exotic dancing had not received permission from the board for this activity and would not be exempt from the bill's provisions.

Small Business Effect: Current alcoholic beverages licensees that have received permission from the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners to conduct exotic dancing would be positively impacted by the exemption to the prohibition against exotic dancing. Those licensees that have not received permission to conduct exotic dancing would be negatively impacted by the prohibition.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: An identical bill was introduced at the 2003 session as HB 517. The bill received a favorable report from the House Economic Matters Committee and was passed by the full House. The bill received a favorable with amendments report from the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and was adopted by the Senate. The House did not concur with the Senate amendments and requested the Senate to recede. The Senate refused to recede and a conference committee was appointed. However, a final agreement was not reached by the two chambers, and the bill was not passed.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 3, 2004
mh/jr Revised - House Third Reader - March 25, 2004

Analysis by: Christopher J. Kelter

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510