

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1392

(Howard County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental
Affairs

**Howard County – Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Out-of-State Restriction
Ho. Co. 15-04**

This bill prohibits in Howard County the issuance of a new Class A or Class D beer; beer and light wine; or beer, wine, and liquor license to any person, corporation, or limited liability company also holding an alcoholic beverages license in any other state or the District of Columbia. The bill allows current license holders to renew their licenses.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Howard County revenues could decrease minimally due to the prohibition against issuing a license to an entity that holds an alcoholic beverages license in any other state or the District of Columbia. Expenditures would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful.

Analysis

Current Law: While there is no prohibition in Howard County against the issuance of a Class A or Class D beer; beer and light wine; beer, wine, and liquor license to a person, corporation, or limited liability company holding an alcoholic beverages license in any other state or the District of Columbia, several jurisdictions restrict issuance to current license holders only.

In Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Charles, St. Mary's, and Washington counties, a Class A or Class D beer; beer and light wine; or beer, wine, and liquor license may not be issued, except by way of renewal, to a person, corporation, or limited liability company holding an alcoholic beverages license in any other state or the District of Columbia. In Baltimore City, a Class A or Class D beer; beer and light wine; or beer, wine, and liquor license may not be issued, except by way of renewal, to a person, corporation, or limited liability company holding an alcoholic beverages license in any other state.

Background: As of April 30, 2003, there were 84 Class A and Class D licensees in Howard County. Howard County does not require applicants and licensees to provide any information regarding alcoholic beverages licenses held in another state or the District of Columbia. Accordingly, information on the number of Class A and Class D licensees currently holding an out-of-state or District of Columbia alcoholic beverages license is not readily available.

Small Business Effect: Existing small businesses in Howard County that hold a Class A or Class D beer; beer and light wine; or beer, wine, and liquor license may be positively impacted due to less competition. Any small business seeking such a license in Howard County that currently holds an alcoholic beverages license in any other state or the District of Columbia would be prevented from obtaining a license.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 4, 2004
n/ljm

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