

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1522

(St. Mary's County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental
Affairs

Leonardtown – Alcoholic Beverages – Location of Premises with Class B License

This bill exempts Class B (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor licenses issued for premises in the Town of Leonardtown in St. Mary's County from the prohibition against the sale of alcoholic beverages in any building which is within 300 feet of the nearest point of public or nonpublic kindergarten, elementary or secondary school, or church or other place of worship.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2004.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Leonardtown revenues would increase by \$650 annually for each Class B (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor license issued. St. Mary's County expenditures would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: Minimal overall, but potential meaningful for a restaurant in Leonardtown.

Analysis

Current Law: In St. Mary's County, the Board of License Commissioners may not approve any new application for a license to sell alcoholic beverages in any building

where the nearest wall is within 300 feet of the nearest point of public or nonpublic kindergarten, elementary or secondary school, or church or other place of worship.

In St. Mary's County, revenues from the issuance of alcoholic beverages in the corporate limits of Leonardtown must be remitted to the town.

Background: Leonardtown advises that it has undergone substantial revitalization in recent years. However, revitalization of downtown Leonardtown with respect to restaurants that wish to serve alcoholic beverages is impacted by the presence of a church in the central part of the downtown area.

Leonardtown is the only municipality in St. Mary's County.

Local Fiscal Effect: In St. Mary's County, the annual license fee for a Class B (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor license is \$650. There is no application fee or administrative renewal fee for alcoholic beverages licenses in the county.

The number of licenses to be issued in Leonardtown as a result of this bill is unknown but is assumed to be one. Accordingly, Leonardtown revenues would increase by \$650 annually. St. Mary's County could monitor the additional license(s) with existing resources.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): St. Mary's County, Town of Leonardtown, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 17, 2004
n/ljm

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