

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 523

(Senator Pipkin)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

Queen Anne's County - Alcoholic Beverages - Wine Tasting License

This bill authorizes the Queen Anne's County Board of License Commissioners to issue a wine tasting (WT) license to holders of Class A beer and wine or Class A beer, wine, and liquor licenses. The WT license authorizes, for tasting and sampling only, the on-premises consumption of wine that does not exceed 22% alcohol by volume. The WT licensee is prohibited from serving more than two ounces from each brand to any one person and more than four ounces to any one person each day. The bill authorizes the board to adopt regulations for wine tasting and sampling. The annual fee is \$100.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2004.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Queen Anne's County revenues would increase by \$100 for each WT license issued.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Generally, Class A licensed establishments do not have on-premises consumption privileges. However, the City of Annapolis, Baltimore City, and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Caroline, Carroll, Dorchester, Frederick, Garrett, Harford, Howard, and Prince George's counties issue WT licenses to Class A beer and wine licensees and Class A beer, wine, and liquor licensees. Additionally, Washington and Wicomico

counties issue WT licenses only to Class A beer and wine licensees. Talbot County only issues WT licenses to wineries.

Background: As of April 30, 2003, there were nine Class A beer and wine licensees and 15 Class A beer, wine, and liquor licensees in Queen Anne's County.

Local Fiscal Effect: Queen Anne's County anticipates all 15 Class A beer, wine, and liquor licensees will apply for a special WT license. Accordingly, Queen Anne's County revenues would increase by \$1,500 annually.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Queen Anne's County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 29, 2004
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