

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2004 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

Senate Bill 833 (Senator Conway, *et al.*)  
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

---

**Baltimore City - Board of Liquor License Commissioners - Administration**

---

This bill specifies that the executive secretary of the Baltimore City Board of Liquor License Commissioners, or a designee, is the administrative officer for the board instead of the chairman of the board. The bill transfers the responsibilities of the chairman of the board to the executive secretary or a designee. In addition, the executive secretary or a designee is authorized to take disciplinary action against or terminate the employment of employees of the board in accordance with the Baltimore City civil service policies.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2004.

---

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Baltimore City finances would not be affected.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

---

**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The chairman of the Baltimore City Board of License Commissioners is the administrative officer of the board. The chairman is charged with enforcing the provisions of alcoholic beverages licenses and regulation in the city, supervising the activities and investigations of the alcoholic beverages inspectors and board employees, examining the location and general character of licensees, and making recommendations

to the board concerning zoning of licenses, methods of enforcement, and promulgation of regulations to carry out the regulation of alcoholic beverages.

The board is required to appoint an executive secretary who may continue to hold office regardless of changes to board membership; an executive secretary may only be removed for incompetency or immorality upon charges furnished in writing by the board for setting the grounds for dismissal and after an opportunity for hearing.

**Background:** The Baltimore City Board of Liquor License Commissioners has three members appointed by the Governor every two years; one of the members is designated chairman. The board is responsible for administering the statutes, laws, and ordinances and its own rules and regulations regarding the operation of alcoholic beverages establishments in the city. As of April 2003 there were 1,348 licensed establishments in the city. The board has 33 full-time positions and a fiscal 2004 operating budget of approximately \$1.7 million.

---

### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Baltimore City, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 16, 2004  
ncs/ljm

---

Analysis by: Christopher J. Kelter

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