

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Revised

Senate Bill 796

(Chairman, Baltimore County Senators)

(By Request – Baltimore County Administrations)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

Baltimore County - Alcoholic Beverages - Class BDR (Deluxe Restaurant) (On-Sale) Beer, Wine and Liquor Licenses

This bill repeals the requirement in Baltimore County that one of the four Class B (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor licenses that may be held by an individual as a sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, unincorporated association, or limited liability company must be a Class BDR deluxe restaurant (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor license.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2004.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Baltimore County revenues would increase by \$1,000 for each Class B beer, wine, and liquor license issued. Expenditures would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful. An individual that has obtained three Class B beer, wine, and liquor licenses could be positively impacted by obtaining a fourth Class B license instead of a Class BDR license.

Analysis

Current Law: Generally, an individual in Baltimore County, for the use of a sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, unincorporated association, or limited liability company, may obtain up to three Class B (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor licenses for a

restaurant. As many as four such licenses may be issued if each restaurant meets specified criteria including a minimum seating capacity of 190 persons for dining, a cocktail lounge or bar area seating capacity that does not exceed 10% of the seating capacity for dining, and no more than 20% of sales in alcoholic beverages in connection with the business. However, one of the four licenses must be a Class BDR deluxe restaurant (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor license.

A Class BDR deluxe restaurant (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor license may only be issued for restaurants that have a minimum seating capacity of 150 persons, cocktail lounge or bar seating not to exceed 25% of the seating capacity for dining, parking facilities to accommodate at least 75 vehicles, and a minimum capital investment of \$800,000.

Background: The annual license fee for any Class B beer, wine, and liquor (on-sale) license in Baltimore County is \$1,000.

Local Fiscal Effect: Baltimore County advises that it only expects four additional Class B (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor licenses to be issued by repealing the requirement that one of the four Class B licenses held by an individual be a Class BDR deluxe restaurant (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor license. Accordingly, Baltimore County revenues could increase by \$4,000 annually.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 1218 (Chairman, Baltimore County Delegation) (By Request – Baltimore County Administration) – Economic Matters.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 7, 2004
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