

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 598

(Prince George's County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Prince George's County - Alcoholic Beverages - Additional Class B Licenses
PG 313-04

This bill authorizes the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners to issue an additional Class B beer, wine, and liquor license to holders of a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license if the additional license being sought is for an establishment defined by county zoning ordinance as a waterfront entertainment retail complex or an establishment located on 100 or more acres that has been designated by the Prince George's County Executive as a recreational, destination, or entertainment attraction. The bill also prohibits an individual, partnership, corporation, unincorporated association, or limited liability company from holding or having an interest in more than one of these additional licenses.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Prince George's County revenues would increase by \$3,200 for each additional Class B beer, wine, and liquor license issued at the National Harbor resort and by \$2,500 for each additional Class B beer, wine, and liquor license renewed at the National Harbor resort.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: In general, a local alcoholic beverages board may not issue more than one alcoholic beverages license to, or for the use of, one person. However, there are numerous exceptions to this prohibition. The Prince George's County Board of License

Commissioners is authorized to issue additional Class B beer, wine, and liquor licenses to an individual, partnership, corporation, unincorporated association, or limited liability company for restaurants in underserved areas, specifically the Suitland business district, the Port Towns business district, or the Largo area.

The initial application fee in Prince George's County for an alcoholic beverages license is \$700. There is no renewal application fee for alcoholic beverages licenses in Prince George's County.

Background: Prince George's County advises that the waterfront entertainment retail complex as defined by a county ordinance is the National Harbor resort. The developer of the National Harbor resort advises that the project is not scheduled to be completed until fall 2006 at the earliest.

The county advises that a proposed mixed-use project, tentatively called Konterra, would be located south of Laurel and includes in its plans a recreational, destination, or entertainment attraction of 100 or more acres. The county further advises that the Konterra development would likely be started only if the InterCounty Connector is completed.

Local Fiscal Effect: Prince George's County advises that the developer of the National Harbor resort is pursuing multiple national and regional restaurants to operate food and beverage facilities at the resort. The county further advises that many of these restaurants already hold alcoholic beverages licenses in the county. However, it is currently unknown how many Class B beer, wine, and liquor licenses would be issued at the resort.

In any event, Prince George's County revenues would increase by \$3,200 for each Class B beer, wine, and liquor license issued at the National Harbor resort development in the first year of the resort's operation. This includes a one-time application fee (\$700) and the annual license fee (\$2,500). County revenues would increase by \$2,500 for each license that is renewed in subsequent years. The county advises that monitoring the additional licenses at the National Harbor resort could be handled with existing resources.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 5, 2004
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