

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2005 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

Senate Bill 137 (Senator Della)  
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

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**Baltimore City - Alcoholic Beverages - Wine Festival**

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This bill increases the license fee for a special Baltimore Wine Festival (BWF) license from \$15 to \$50 per day. Additionally, it permits the festival to be held for four four-day periods, annually. The only area of Baltimore City where this license may not be issued is the 46<sup>th</sup> district, with the exception of the 1<sup>st</sup> precinct of the 22<sup>nd</sup> ward.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2005.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Baltimore City license fee revenues would increase by \$185 for each wine festival, assuming each festival is held for the maximum number of days. Expenditures would not be affected.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The license fee for each BWF license is \$15 per festival license and the festival may only be held on four weekends per year. BWF licenses may not be issued in districts 46 and 47A.

**Background:** A number of beer and wine festivals are held annually throughout the State. They are seen as advertising and publicity events for businesses participating in

the festival. Beer and wine festival licenses may be issued in Allegany, Anne Arundel, Charles, Dorchester, Queen Anne's, and Worcester counties. In addition to beer and wine festivals, there are several wine festivals throughout the State. Special wine festival licenses may be issued in Baltimore, Calvert, Carroll, Garrett, Harford, Howard, St. Mary's, Somerset, Washington, and Wicomico counties, as well as Baltimore City. A special beer festival license may be obtained in Baltimore City and Baltimore, Frederick, and Wicomico counties.

The daily license fee for the special beer festival license issued by Baltimore City is \$50.

**Local Fiscal Effect:** Assuming that Baltimore City issues four BWF licenses annually, and each festival is held for the maximum four days, annual license fee revenues would increase by \$740.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 9, 2005  
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Analysis by: Joshua A. Watters

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