

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 304

(Senator Della)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

Baltimore City - Alcoholic Beverages - After Hours Food Service by Class D Licensees - 46th Legislative District

This bill authorizes the Baltimore City Board of Liquor License Commissioners to grant an exemption for remaining open after hours to a holder of a Class D beer, wine, and liquor license that operates a restaurant, located in the 46th Legislative District, if it is used only for serving food to patrons seated in a dining room that is not adjacent to a bar.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2006.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Enforcement of the bill's provisions would be absorbable within existing resources.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful.

Analysis

Current Law: In Baltimore City, a licensed establishment is required to cease all operations, including the serving of alcoholic beverages or food and providing entertainment, at the closing hour for that class of licensed premises. Exceptions to this requirement include a holder of a Class B restaurant license, only for serving food to patrons seated for dining; and a pharmacy that fills prescriptions.

For a holder of a Class D beer, wine, and liquor license (without amusement permit), no sales may be allowed in the establishment between the hours of 1 a.m. on Sunday and 6 a.m. the following day. In addition, generally, these establishments in Baltimore City may remain open for other days from 6 a.m. to 1 a.m.

Background: There are 98 Class D beer, wine, and liquor licensees in the city.

Local Fiscal Effect: The Baltimore City Board of Liquor License Commissioners advises that while there may be additional enforcement activity for the board, this activity should be minimal and absorbable within existing resources.

Small Business Effect: Allowing a Class D beer, wine, and liquor licensee operating a restaurant to remain open after the closing hour for serving food to patrons under certain circumstances, could have a potential meaningful positive impact on these licensees.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 15, 2006
mam/hlb Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 16, 2006

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