

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 217
Economic Matters

(St. Mary's County Delegation)

Education, Health, and
Environmental Affairs

St. Mary's County - Alcoholic Beverages - Maximum Fine for Sales Violations

This bill increases the maximum penalty from \$500 to \$1,000 for violations of alcoholic beverage licensing laws in St. Mary's County. The bill also clarifies that the Alcohol Beverage Board has the authority to revoke or suspend an alcoholic beverage license or impose a fine on a licensee.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2007.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: St. Mary's County fine revenue could increase by \$13,000 annually beginning in FY 2008 if the maximum fine is imposed for all violations, assuming no change in the number of violations. Expenditures would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: Minimal increase in fines for noncompliant alcoholic beverage licensees.

Analysis

Current Law: The St. Mary's County Board of License Commissioners is authorized to impose penalties and revoke or suspend an alcoholic beverage license for any licensing violations. All fines imposed are payable to St. Mary's County.

Local Revenue: St. Mary's County advises that there were 13 alcoholic beverage violations in the first six months of fiscal 2007. If the maximum fine is imposed and current trends continue, St. Mary's County could realize an additional \$13,000 in fine revenue beginning in fiscal 2008.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): St. Mary's County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 14, 2007
ncs/hlb

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