

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1020
Economic Matters

(Prince George's County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental
Affairs

Prince George's County - Alcoholic Beverages - Class A/Class 4 Light Wine Licenses
PG 322-08

This bill authorizes the issuance of a Class A light wine license in Prince George's County and exempts any winery applying for such a license from any quotas as to the number of licenses in the election district where the winery is located.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2008.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Prince George's County finances would not be directly affected since there are not any Class 4 manufacturer's license holders in the county at this time.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Nineteen counties, not including Prince George's County, are authorized to issue a Class A light wine license.

Background: A Class A light wine license may be issued to a holder of a Class 4 manufacturer's license. The annual fee for a Class A light wine license is generally \$50, although some counties have enacted different fees. A holder of a Class A light wine

license is authorized to keep for sale and sell light wines produced at the winery in any quantity, and to any consumer at retail, at the place described in the license. The light wine shall be delivered in a sealed package or container which may not be opened or the contents consumed on the licensed premises.

Local Fiscal Effect: There would be no fiscal impact in fiscal 2009 because there are currently no Class 4 manufacturer's license holders in Prince George's County. Should the county grant a Class A license in the future, revenues would increase by \$50 due to the accompanying annual license fee.

Small Business Effect: The bill could encourage the establishment of wineries in Prince George's County by small business owners.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 14, 2008
ncs/hlb

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