

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 674

(Delegate Schuler, *et al.*)

Economic Matters

Alcoholic Beverages - Home Brewing Instructor's Permit

This bill establishes the home brewing instructor's permit, a new type of statewide alcoholic beverages permit. A home brewing instructor's permit allows a permit holder to teach a client, who is at least 21 years of age, methods of home brewing beer in the client's home using equipment and supplies provided by either the permit holder or the client. The permit holder must be at least 21 years of age and may not simultaneously hold any other alcoholic beverages license. The Comptroller's Office will issue the permit and may adopt regulations regarding limits on quantities of beer produced, record keeping requirements, and other activities relating to the issuance of a home brewer's permit. The permit fee is \$250.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2008.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund revenues could increase by at least \$450 in FY 2008 and by at least \$250 annually beginning in FY 2009. Expenditures would not be affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful impact for businesses that may become authorized to offer home brewing instruction.

Analysis

Current Law: There is no alcoholic beverages permit authorizing an individual to offer home brewing instructions at the customer's home. A "family beer and wine facility" permit, issued by the Comptroller's Office, authorizes a permit holder to establish a facility for the production of homemade beer. The permit holder may provide equipment, raw materials, and instructions to a patron, but may not engage in the actual production or manufacture of beer or wine. A patron of a family beer and wine facility may use the facility to produce beer or wine for home consumption only. The permit fee for a family beer and wine facility is \$400.

State Fiscal Effect: The Comptroller's Office advises that there is at least one business that would apply for a home brewing instructor's permit. Each permit application would result in a one-time application fee of \$200. General fund revenues would increase by \$450 in fiscal 2008 and by \$250 annually thereafter for the issuance of one permit. The Comptroller's Office could issue the permit and adopt regulations with existing resources.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 716 (Senator Klausmeier, *et al.*) – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): Comptroller's Office, Department of Legislative Services

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mcp/hlb

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