

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 987

(Senator Haines)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

Carroll County - Special Beer Festival - License Fee

This bill reduces, from \$200 to \$50, the fee for a special beer festival license in Carroll County.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2008.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. The bill codifies current practice in Carroll County.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A special beer festival license entitles the holder to display and sell beer for consumption on or off the licensed premises during a special beer festival in Carroll County. The license fee is \$200 for a one-day or two-day festival.

Background: Beer and wine festivals are held annually throughout the State. They are seen as advertising and publicity events for businesses participating in the festival. Carroll County had nine vendors participate in the one beer festival that was held in 2007.

Chapter 67 of 2005 created the beer festival license for Carroll County with similar provisions and the same licensing fees as the wine festival license for the county.

However, as advised by Carroll County, vendors at wine festivals typically profit from selling wine for off-site consumption, which is not the case at a beer festival. Accordingly, beer vendors who applied for a special event license in 2007 requested a reduced license fee and the board of license commissioners agreed and decreased the license fee for a beer festival to \$50.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Carroll County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 26, 2008
mll/hlb

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