Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly 2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1050 Economic Matters (Prince George's County Delegation)

Prince George's County - Bottles of Beer or Wine - Hours of Sale PG 319-09

This bill prohibits Class A beer and Class B beer license holders in Prince George's County from selling bottles of beer that are 40 ounces or less in volume after 9 p.m. on Sunday through Thursday and after 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. The bill also prohibits Class A beer and light wine; Class B beer and light wine; and Class A beer, wine, and liquor license holders in Prince George's County from selling bottles of beer or wine that are 40 ounces or less in volume during the same days and hours.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2009.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill does not materially affect State alcohol tax revenues.

Local Effect: None. Enforcement activities can be handled with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal decrease in revenues for small businesses due to reduced sales of individual bottles of beer or wine as a result of the bill's restrictions.

Analysis

Current Law: While alcoholic beverages differ by category based on the type of beverages sold, alcoholic beverages licenses do not restrict the hours during which a particular category of license holders may sell alcoholic beverages based on the type of beverage sold.

Background: According to the *State of Maryland Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Annual Report*, approximately 13.4 million gallons of beer were delivered to Prince George's County in fiscal 2008.

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 20, 2009

ncs/mwc

Analysis by: Amy A. Devadas Direct Inquiries to:

(410) 946-5510 (301) 970-5510