

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1364  
Economic Matters

(Charles County Delegation)  
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

---

Charles County - Alcoholic Beverages - License Suspensions

---

This bill repeals a provision in Charles County that prevents the suspension of an alcoholic beverages license from being in effect on a Friday, Saturday, or Sunday if the license is suspended for four days or less.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2009.

---

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** None. The bill does not directly affect Charles County operations or finances.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal for businesses whose licenses are suspended.

---

Analysis

**Current Law:** The Board of License Commissioners in Charles County may impose a maximum fine of \$1,000 or suspend an alcoholic beverage license for any violation of the alcoholic beverage laws affecting Charles County. If a license is suspended for four days or less, the suspension may not be on a Friday, Saturday, or Sunday unless the licensed premises is only open on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday, or a combination of those days.

**Background:** According to the Comptroller's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Annual Report, there were 53 retail license violations in Charles County in fiscal 2008. Charles County

indicates that the majority of these violations resulted in license suspensions. Generally, the suspension assessed for a first-time violator is three days.

---

### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 19, 2009  
ncs/mwc

---

Analysis by: Jennifer K. Botts

Direct Inquiries to:  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510