

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 886 (Senator Rosapepe)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

Prince George's County - Laurel Commons - Alcoholic Beverages - Additional
Class B Licenses

This bill authorizes the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners to allow an individual, partnership, corporation, unincorporated association, or limited liability company to hold or have an interest in more than one Class B beer, wine, and liquor license if the license is sought for a restaurant located in the Laurel Commons area within specified geographic boundaries. A licensee in Laurel Commons may not hold more than four Class B beer, wine, and liquor licenses.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2009.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Potential minimal increase in Prince George's County revenues from license and application fees for additional licenses issued pursuant to the bill. Expenditures are not affected.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful impact on restaurants issued additional licenses under the bill.

Analysis

Current Law: In general, a person, partnership, limited partnership, corporation, unincorporated association, limited liability company, or other combination of persons (natural or otherwise) may not have an interest in more than one license authorizing the

retail or wholesale sale of alcoholic beverages in Prince George's County. The Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners is allowed to make an exception for specific areas of the county underserved by restaurants. The exception does not apply to a restaurant located within a chain store, supermarket, discount house, drug store, or convenience store. A license holder may not hold more than four Class B beer, wine, and liquor licenses within all of the underserved areas. A fifth license may be issued or transferred to a license holder if the date on the application for the fifth license is at least one year from the date on which the fourth license was issued or transferred. This same timeline applies to an application for a sixth license after the issuance or transfer of a fifth license.

Local Fiscal Effect: The increase in Prince George's County revenues as a result of the bill will depend on the number of additional licenses issued. However, for each new license obtained, a licensee will likely pay a \$2,750 license fee, \$770 Sunday sales fee, and a \$700 one-time application fee, resulting in revenue increases of \$4,220 per new license in the first year of the license and \$3,520 for each year thereafter.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 1497 (Prince George's County Delegation) - Rules and Executive Nominations.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 11, 2009
ncs/mwc Revised - Senate Third Reader - April 8, 2009

Analysis by: Amy A. Devadas

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