

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 407 (Senators Miller and Dyson)  
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

---

Calvert County - Winery Special Event Permits - Farmers' Markets

---

This bill increases existing limits on the number of winery special event permits that may be issued to a licensed Class 4 Maryland limited winery in Calvert County. The bill authorizes the issuance of a winery special event permit for unlimited use during the calendar year at the Calvert County Farmer's Market and the North Beach Friday Night Farmers' Market.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2009.

---

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** Minimal increase in general fund revenues. The fee for the winery special event permit is \$25 per event.

**Local Effect:** None. Calvert County can handle any enforcement related to additional winery special event permits with existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential meaningful for Class 4 limited wineries in Calvert County.

---

Analysis

**Current Law:** The Comptroller's Office may issue up to 12 winery special event permits to a holder of a Class 4 Maryland limited winery license in any given calendar year. A permit may not exceed three consecutive days and no more than three winery special event permits may be issued to any given limited winery for use in the same political subdivision during a calendar year.

The permit may only be issued for an event which (1) has as its major purpose an activity other than the sale and promotion of alcoholic beverages and for which the participation of the winery is a subordinate activity; (2) is approved by the Maryland Department of Agriculture and the Comptroller's Office; and (3) is held on a nonlicensed premises or a premises on which a person may obtain a temporary alcoholic beverages license.

A winery special event permit authorizes the permit holder to provide one-ounce samples, sell wine by the glass for on-premises consumption, and sell no more than four 750 ml bottles of wine to a consumer for off-premises consumption. The fee for a winery special event permit is \$25 per event.

**Background:** The Calvert County Farmer's Market operates on Saturdays from April through November. The North Beach Friday Night Farmer's Market is open on Fridays from June through October.

**State Fiscal Effect:** If all four of the Class 4 limited wineries in Calvert County apply for the \$25 special event permit, general fund revenues increase by \$100 annually beginning in fiscal 2009.

---

### Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 591 is identified as a cross file; however, the bills are not identical.

**Information Source(s):** Comptroller's Office, Maryland Department of Agriculture, Calvert County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 1, 2009  
ncs/mwc

---

Analysis by: Jennifer K. Botts

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