

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1499
Economic Matters

(Prince George's County Delegation)

Prince George's County - Alcoholic Beverages - Licenses for Specialty Stores
PG 331-09

This bill authorizes the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners to issue a Class A beer and light wine license to specialty food stores, provided that the store does not use more than 15% of its floor space for the display or sale of beer and wine. The license may only be issued to: (1) a specialty food store that does not exceed 25,000 square feet of floor space or exceeds 100,000 square feet of floor space; or (2) a specialty store that does not exceed 50,000 square feet of floor space, if the store sells food, beer, wine, clothing, furniture, or other general merchandise.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2009.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Prince George's County revenues may increase by \$2,800 in FY 2010 from license and application fees. County revenues increase by approximately \$700 each year thereafter from license renewal fees. Expenditures are not affected.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful impact to a specialty store that obtains a Class A beer and light wine license.

Analysis

Current Law: In Prince George's County, the board of license commissioners may issue a Class A beer and light wine license for off-premises consumption.

Class A licenses may not be transferred to chain stores, supermarkets, or discount houses. The annual license fee for this license is \$220.

Local Revenues: The Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners advises that this bill would likely affect three specialty stores, resulting in a \$2,760 increase in revenues from license and application fees in fiscal 2010. Revenues from renewal license fees will increase by \$660 each year thereafter. If other stores are granted Class A beer and light wine licenses in future years, revenues would increase by \$220 for each additional licensee. New licensees are subject to a one-time \$700 application fee.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: HB 1029 of 2008 received an unfavorable report from the House Economic Matters Committee.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 28, 2009
ncs/mwc

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