

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2010 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Revised

Senate Bill 194

(Senator Colburn)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

Dorchester County - Alcoholic Beverages - Pub-Brewery and Micro-Brewery
Licenses

This bill authorizes the Comptroller to issue to a single applicant one Class 6 pub-brewery license or one Class 7 micro-brewery license, but not both, for a location in an enterprise zone in Dorchester County if the applicant holds no more than three Class B beer, wine, and liquor licenses. The bill does not limit the number of Class 6 pub-brewery licenses or Class 7 micro-brewery licenses that may be issued in Dorchester County.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2010.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill does not substantively affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful for small businesses in Dorchester County that receive either a Class 6 pub-brewery license or a Class 7 micro-brewery license.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: A Class 6 pub-brewery license is issued by the Comptroller to a holder of a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (on-sale) license. In part, the holder of a Class 6 pub-brewery license may sell malt beverages for off-premises consumption in sealed refillable containers. The license fee is \$500 per license year.

Class 7 micro-brewery (on- and off-sale) licenses are issued by the Comptroller for use in 17 jurisdictions – Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Carroll, Charles, Dorchester, Frederick, Garrett, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George’s, Talbot, and Wicomico counties; Baltimore City and Annapolis. In general, the license is issued only to a holder of a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (on-sale) license that is issued for use on the premises of a restaurant with exceptions for Montgomery and Prince George’s counties. License holders may sell up to 4,000 barrels of beer to customers for consumption on the premises.

Except in Wicomico County, a holder of a Class 7 micro-brewery license may, in part, brew and bottle beer at the licensed location for sale to go. The license fee is \$500 per license year.

There are currently 15 Class 7 micro-brewery licenses issued in the State.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 553 – (Wicomico County Delegation) – Economic Matters.

Information Source(s): Dorchester County, Wicomico County, Comptroller’s Office, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 9, 2010
mpc/hlb Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 23, 2010
 Revised - Enrolled Bill - May 20, 2010

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