

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2010 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 535

(Cecil County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Cecil County - Alcoholic Beverages - Entertainment Facility License

This bill establishes a Class EF (entertainment facility) beer, wine, and liquor license in Cecil County. The license authorizes the sale of beer, wine, and liquor by the drink and by the bottle, from one or more outlets in the entertainment facility, for consumption anywhere within the premises. One or more Class EF licenses may be issued for the same facility. Despite provisions that generally limit the number of alcoholic beverage licenses that can be issued based on the number of registered voters, the board of license commissioners may issue a Class EF license to an applicant that has a capital investment in the facility, not including any real property, of at least \$35 million. The Class EF license authorizes (1) music and dancing; and (2) the sales and serving of beer, wine, and liquor throughout the entertainment facility during the days and hours that the facility is open for business. The annual license fee is \$7,500.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2010.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Cecil County revenues increase by at least \$7,500 annually beginning in FY 2011. County expenditures are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: In general, the Cecil County Board of License Commissioners may not issue in the aggregate more than one alcoholic beverages license for every 400 registered voters in the county, as determined by the current registration of voters.

Local Fiscal Effect: Cecil County advises that an entertainment facility is under construction and scheduled to open in late 2010 and that there will be at least one Class EF license issued. Accordingly, revenues increase by at least \$7,500 annually beginning in fiscal 2011. Any future revenue increase will depend on the number of additional licenses issued.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 17, 2010
mpc/hlb

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