

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2010 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 947

(Anne Arundel County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Anne Arundel County - Alcoholic Beverages - Tasting Licenses

This bill creates a Class BWST cordial, beer, and wine (on-premises) tasting license in Anne Arundel County. A Class BWST license may only be issued to a holder of a Class BWL beer, wine, and liquor (on-premises) license. The bill increases, from \$50 to \$150, the annual fee for a Class BWT beer and wine tasting license and establishes a \$500 fee for a Class BWST license.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2010, and terminates June 30, 2013.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Anne Arundel County revenues increase by at least \$2,200 annually in FY 2011 to 2013 to reflect the new license fee for Class BWT licenses. Anne Arundel County revenues further increase by \$500 for each new Class BWST license that is issued. Minimal increase in enforcement expenditures.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The bill creates a Class BWST license in Anne Arundel County which authorizes a holder to allow the on-premises consumption of the following alcoholic beverages for tasting or sampling purposes only:

- liquor in a quantity not exceeding one-half ounce of liquor from any of five brands to any one person in a day;
- light wine in a quantity not exceeding one ounce from each brand to any one person; and
- beer in a quantity not exceeding three ounces to any one person.

Current Law: A Class BWT license authorizes a holder to allow the on-premises consumption of wine and beer in specified quantities. A Class BWT license may only be issued to a holder of a Class BWL beer, wine, and liquor (on-premises) license or a Class BW beer and wine (on-sale) license. The annual fee for a Class BWT licenses is \$50, which is in addition to the Class BWL or Class BW annual license fee.

Local Revenues: Anne Arundel County has currently issued 22 Class BWT licenses. Assuming that each of the current licensees renews its license, Anne Arundel County revenues will increase by \$2,200 annually in fiscal 2011 to 2013.

Anne Arundel County indicates that there are currently 80 Class BWL licensees that would be eligible for the new Class BWST license. Revenues increase by \$500 for each new Class BWST license issued.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 3, 2010
ncs/hlb Revised - House Third Reader - March 31, 2010

Analysis by: Jennifer K. Botts

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