

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2010 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 377

(Senator Della)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

Baltimore City - Alcoholic Beverages - Class C Licensees to Reimburse Board for Costs

This bill authorizes the Baltimore City Board of Liquor License Commissioners to collect from a holder of a special Class C beer, wine, and liquor license reimbursement for costs incurred by the board while monitoring the event for which the license is issued.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2010.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Potential minimal increase in Baltimore City revenues. Expenditures are not directly affected.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Local boards of license commissioners are authorized to issue special alcoholic beverage licenses for specified periods; the Comptroller is authorized to issue statewide licenses.

Generally, a special Class C beer, wine, and liquor license may be granted to a club, society, or association for a bona fide entertainment event held or conducted by the organization for a period not exceeding seven consecutive days, and upon the payment of a fee of \$15 per day. In Baltimore City the fee is \$50 per day.

Local Fiscal Effect: Baltimore City revenues may increase by a minimal amount due to the ability of the board of liquor license commissioners to recover costs when monitoring events where a special Class C beer, wine, and liquor one day license is, such as the Fells Point Festival. Currently, other city agencies, such as the Department of Public Works, Department of Transportation, and the Baltimore City Police Department, are able to charge organizations holding these types of events for costs incurred by the respective agencies.

As noted, a one day special Class C license is \$50 per day regardless of the event size. For events such as the Fells Point Festival, where attendance can be over 100,000, the board must use many inspectors to monitor event activity which can cost up to \$1,600 per day. This estimate does not include additional supervisors, including the 311 complaint supervisor.

As a result of the bill, expenditures incurred by the Baltimore City Board of Liquor License Commissioners while monitoring special Class C beer, wine, and liquor events will be offset through the ability to be reimbursed for the cost of monitoring such events.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 24, 2010
mpc/hlb

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