

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2011 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Revised**

Senate Bill 932

(Senator Miller)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

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**Calvert County - Alcoholic Beverages - Special Event License**

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This emergency bill establishes a Special Event (SE) beer, wine, and liquor (BWL) license in Calvert County. The Calvert County Board of License Commissioners must determine the number of SE BWL licenses a single applicant may be issued in a year. On request, the board may approve multiple venues where alcoholic beverages may be sold on the licensed premises. The board may require that an applicant for the SE BWL license provide specific security measures to ensure the peace and safety of the public on the premises.

An SE BWL license may be valid for one or more days. The SE BWL license fee is \$500 if the event is predominately for commercial purposes and is \$25 if the event is predominantly for a charitable purpose.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Calvert County license fee revenues will increase to the extent that licenses are issued for special events that are predominately for commercial purposes.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Bill Summary:** “Special event” is defined as an event open to the public, including a concert, a fundraiser for a charity, a holiday celebration, a public party or gathering, a local business opening or closing, a ball, a gala, and an ethnic festival.

Before an SE BWL license may be issued, the Calvert County Board of License Commissioners must approve the time and location of the event; the location or locations on the event site where the alcoholic beverages are to be sold and consumed; and the times when the alcoholic beverages may be sold. An SE BWL license allows the sale of alcohol for consumption anywhere on the licensed premises, including any parking lot, building, structure, or other area where the public may attend.

Holding an SE BWL license does not preclude the holder from holding another, different, alcoholic beverages license. The board may adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of the bill.

**Current Law:** A special Class C beer, wine, and liquor license entitles the holder to sell alcohol during a bona fide entertainment conducted by a club, society, or association at the place described for a period not exceeding seven consecutive days. In Calvert County the fee for this license is \$25 per day, except that for any bona fide religious, fraternal, civic, war veterans', hospital or charitable organization, the fee for the license is \$15.

**Local Fiscal Effect:** The number of SE BWL applications that will be submitted in Calvert County each year is unknown; the number issued will depend upon the Calvert County Board of License Commissioners. The \$25 fee for a special event that is predominately for charitable purposes is not expected to materially affect Calvert County finances. Given the \$500 license fee for a special event that is predominately for commercial purposes, the significance of the increase in Calvert County revenues will depend on the number of these SE BWL licenses approved by the county board of license commissioners.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 3, 2011  
ncs/hlb Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 17, 2011

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