

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2011 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 405

(Washington County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Washington County - Alcoholic Beverages - Criminal History Records

This bill requires the Washington County Board of License Commissioners to apply to the Criminal Justice Information System Central Repository for a State and national criminal history records check for each applicant for a new alcoholic beverages license or a person who applies to transfer an existing license. The board must forward two complete sets of the applicant's fingerprints to the Central Repository. The criminal history records may only be made available to the Washington County Board of License Commissioners and must otherwise be kept in a sealed envelope and be destroyed on completion of their necessary use. The board must establish a fee to cover the cost incurred and adopt regulations to implement the bill. A hearing for an applicant and the issuance of a license may not be delayed if requested criminal history records are not received by the date of the scheduled hearing.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any expenditure increase for DPSCS due to criminal background checks is offset by the fees collected for performing the background checks.

Local Effect: None. Any costs for criminal background checks are passed on to license applicants through a fee assessed by the Washington County Board of License Commissioners. The total cost of criminal history records checks and fingerprinting is \$57.25, which includes State and national background checks.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Applicants for alcoholic beverages licenses in Washington County are not required to be fingerprinted or to have a criminal records check performed.

Background: Washington County Board of License Commissioners has 140 active alcoholic beverages licensees.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 297 (Senator Shank, *et al.*) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): Washington County, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 24, 2011
mm/hlb Revised - House Third Reader - March 30, 2011

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