

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2011 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 376
Economic Matters

(Allegany County Delegation)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Allegany County - Alcoholic Beverages - Eligibility for Class B-BT (Buffet Theater) License

This bill expands eligibility for a Class B-BT (Buffet Theatre) on-sale beer, light wine, and liquor (BWL) license in Allegany County to include a nonprofit professional theatre that hosts live acoustic-style music or feature films. The bill also removes the requirement that the performance be live.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2011.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Allegany County revenues from alcoholic beverage licenses may increase by \$700 annually beginning in FY 2012 from the issuance of two Class B-BT licenses. Expenditures are not affected.

Small Business Effect: Minimal. Nonprofit theatres that host acoustic-style music or feature films may benefit from the expanded eligibility for a Class B-BT license under the bill.

Analysis

Current Law: The Allegany County Board of License Commissioners may issue a Class B-BT beer, light wine, and liquor license. The license allows an establishment operated as a nonprofit professional theatre that provides live Broadway-style musicals, comedy, or drama to its customers to sell beer, and wine by the bottle and liquor by the

drink for on-premises consumption two hours before the performance, during the performance, and for two hours after the performance. The annual fee for a Class B-BT license is \$350.

Local Fiscal Effect: Allegany County does not currently have any Class B-BT licenses issued; however, there are at least two theatres that are eligible for a Class B-BT license under the bill. Therefore, Allegany County revenues from alcoholic beverages licenses may increase by \$700 (\$350 x 2 licenses) annually beginning in fiscal 2012. Actual revenues will vary depending on the number of eligible theatres that purchase a Class B-BT license.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 366 (Senator Edwards) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): Allegany County, Comptroller's Office, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 20, 2011
mlm/hlb

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