

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2012 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

Senate Bill 527 (Senator Edwards)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

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**Garrett County - Alcoholic Beverages - Class B Beer Licenses**

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This bill establishes a Class B beer license in Garrett County for specified hotels, motels, inns, and restaurants. The bill authorizes the Garrett County Board of License Commissioners to issue the license with or without a catering option.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2012.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Garrett County revenues will increase minimally from the issuing fees and annual fees received for each new Class B beer license issued beginning in FY 2013. Enforcement activities can be handled with existing county resources.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Bill Summary:** The Garrett County Board of License Commissioners may issue a Class B beer license with or without a catering option to:

- a bona fide hotel, motel, or inn that accommodates the public, is equipped with at least 10 bedrooms for public accommodation, and has a lobby with a registration and mail desk, and seating facilities; or

- a restaurant that seats at least 20 persons at tables, not including seats at bars or counters, and has the ability to prepare and serve full-course meals for at least 20 persons at one seating.

A holder of a Class B beer license without a catering option may sell beer for consumption on or off the licensed premises.

A holder of a Class B beer license with a catering option may sell beer for consumption on or off the licensed premises, and may keep for sale and sell beer for consumption at events the holder may cater off the licensed premises. In order to exercise the catering option, the holder must provide food if beer will be provided at the catered event off the licensed premises, and the catering option may only be exercised during the hours and days allowable under the license.

The issuing fee for a Class B beer license without a catering option is \$150 with an additional \$150 annual fee.

The issuing fee for a Class B beer license with a catering option is \$250 with an additional \$250 annual fee.

**Current Law/Background:** There are currently no Class B beer licenses issued in Garrett County, as the provision of law does not currently apply to the county.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 504 (Delegate Beitzel) - Economic Matters.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 17, 2012  
ncs/hlb

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Analysis by: Trevor S. Owen

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