

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 371

(Senator Edwards)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

Garrett County - Alcoholic Beverages - Sunday Sales

This bill authorizes a holder of a Class D license to sell alcoholic beverages from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Sundays in Garrett County. The establishment of the Class D licensee must (1) be a permanent building; (2) be able to seat at least 20 people at tables; (3) have a full-service commercial kitchen capable of serving at least 20 meals at a time; and (4) be approved by the Garrett County Board of License Commissioners, Department of Public Utilities, Health Department, and the Planning and Land Development Office. The bill also expands Sunday sales to precincts of an election district in which voters approve a local referendum in favor of Sunday sales. For the holder of a Class D license, the Sunday sales option has a one-time \$250 issuing fee and a \$250 annual fee.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2013.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Under one set of assumptions, Garrett County license fee revenues increase by approximately \$2,500 annually, and Garrett County issuing fee revenues increase by approximately \$2,500 in FY 2014. Garrett County can monitor licenses with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful. Sunday sales of alcoholic beverages could result in increased sales and profits for eligible establishments.

Analysis

Current Law: In Garrett County, Sunday sales of alcoholic beverages from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. are authorized in election districts 11 and 15 and in any other election district in which voters approve a local referendum in favor of Sunday sales. In those authorized districts, holders of Class C service club licenses may sell alcoholic beverages on Sundays. Also in those authorized districts, holders of special 2-day Class C licenses, special 6-day Class C licenses, special 12-day Class C licenses, and Class B licenses may sell alcoholic beverages on Sundays only in conjunction with a meal. For the holder of a Class C service club license or Class B license, the Sunday sales option has a one-time \$250 issuing fee and a \$250 annual fee.

Local Revenues: There are 73 alcoholic beverages licenses in Garrett County, of which 35 are Class D licenses. There are seven establishments in a precinct of an election district approved to sell alcoholic beverages on Sunday, of which three are Class D licensees and four are Class B licensees. Additionally, there are three Class D licensees outside of the precinct, which would qualify for Sunday sales. The number of qualified licensees which would seek a license to sell alcoholic beverages on Sunday is unknown. *For purposes of illustration*, if all 10 of the qualified licensees seek the Sunday sales licenses, Garrett County revenues would increase by \$5,000 in fiscal 2014 and by \$2,500 annually thereafter.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 464 (Delegate Beitzel) – Economic Matters

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 4, 2013
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