

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 552

(Senators Glassman and Jacobs)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

Harford County - Class H-CC Alcoholic Beverages Licenses

This bill eliminates the requirements that a Class H-CC (corporate club/conference center) license only be used by a private club of at least 25 members who pay an annual membership fee and may not be used for any purpose other than for the benefit of the club. A Class H-CC license may keep for sale and sell beer, wine, *and* liquor, instead of beer, wine, *or* liquor, in a corporate dining room, in addition to a banquet room, conference room, or meeting room and other approved areas. The holder of a Class H-CC license may hold no more than four, instead of one, self-sponsored events per year in the banquet, conference, or meeting room.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2014.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. The bill does not directly affect local governmental finances. The Harford County Liquor Control Board can enforce the bill with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: Minimal overall, but potential meaningful for a small business that has a Class H-CC license.

Analysis

Current Law: The Harford County Liquor Control Board may issue a Class H-CC beer, wine, and liquor license to an establishment with:

- a banquet room, conference center, or meeting room that is suitable for public gatherings and equipped to prepare food; and
- a corporate dining room that is equipped to sell food, only used by at least 25 private club members who pay an annual membership fee and their guests, and used solely for the benefit of the club.

A Class H-CC license allows the holder to keep for sale and sell beer, wine, or liquor during an event contracted with another person in the following places:

- a banquet room, conference center, meeting room, or corporate dining room;
- other areas of the licensed establishment if approved by the liquor control board; or
- an event off the licensed establishment if the event is in Harford County and the licensee contracts to provide food at the event.

The licensee may hold multiple events in the licensed establishment simultaneously. The annual license fee is \$3,000 and no more than six Class H-CC licenses may be in effect at a time. The licensee may only hold one self-sponsored event per year in the banquet, conference, or meeting room.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 14, 2014
mc/lgc Revised - Enrolled Bill - April 14, 2014

Analysis by: Heather N. Ruby

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