

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 1113

(Senators Pugh and Conway)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

Baltimore City - Alcoholic Beverages - Transfer of License

This bill authorizes the transfer of one Class B-D-7 alcoholic beverages license from the 400 block of East Biddle Street to the unit block of West North Avenue in Baltimore City as well as the transfer of one Class B-D-7 alcoholic beverages license from the 900 block to the 1700 block of North Charles Street.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2014.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Minimal. The bill allows for the continued collection of Baltimore City alcoholic beverages license and filing fees for two Class B-D-7 licenses. The total annual revenue from such fees is \$2,740.

Small Business Effect: Minimal overall, but meaningful for the new license holders. It is assumed that the application for a Class B-D-7 license in the unit block of West North Avenue in Baltimore City, which is currently pending, is granted by the Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) in Baltimore City as a result of the bill. Accordingly, the new license holder is positively affected. The holder of the new license in the 1700 block of North Charles Street would be similarly affected if such a transfer occurs.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: In Baltimore City, a holder of a Class B-D-7 license may sell alcoholic beverages from 6 a.m. until 2 a.m. the following day, seven days per week. There is an annual \$1,320 license renewal fee, as well as a \$50 annual filing fee.

Baltimore City reports that there is one Class B-D-7 licensee in the 400 block of East Biddle Street who is currently not operating under that license and who will soon exhaust hardship extensions of the license. The current licensee seeks to transfer the license to a person who has applied to BLLC to operate a Class B-D-7 business in the unit block of West North Avenue. That license application is pending the transfer of the existing license to the West North Avenue license applicant. This bill allows that license transfer to occur and allows for the continuation of the collection of annual license and filing fees for the license.

Baltimore City also reports that the current B-D-7 licensee in the 900 block of North Charles Street also has a Class A beer, wine, and liquor license for that same location. The Class A license has been dormant since the enactment of Chapter 493 of 2012 allowing the transfer of a Class B-D-7 license to the same location. However, according to BLLC, the license holder actually seeks to transfer the dormant Class A license, rather than the Class B-D-7 license as authorized under the bill.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 26, 2014
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