

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 836
Economic Matters

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

Garrett County - Alcoholic Beverages - Class A2 Light Wine Licenses - Repeal

This bill repeals the authority of the Garrett County Board of License Commissioners to issue a Class A2 light wine (on- and off-sale) license and repeals provisions related to the license.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2014.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill does not affect Garrett County finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Garrett County Board of License Commissioners is authorized to issue Class A2 light wine (on- and off-sale) licenses. To qualify for a license, the applicant must be a holder of a Class 3 winery manufacturer's license or a Class 4 limited winery manufacturer's license. The on-sale privilege authorizes the holder to sell the wine produced or bottled on the winery premises by the drink in a restaurant owned and operated by the holder of the winery license that is immediately adjacent to the winery premises. The off-sale privilege authorizes the sale of the wine produced or bottled on the winery premises for off-premises consumption only.

The annual license fee is \$150 and there is a one-time issuing fee of \$150.

Background: Garrett County indicates that there are no Class A2 light wine (on- and off-sale) licenses issued in the county. A local winery in the county had a license in the past, but it is no longer needed since similar privileges are now available under the State Class 4 limited winery license issued by the Comptroller. The scope of operations and activities of a Class 4 limited winery licensee were expanded under Chapter 355 of 2010, including allowing for greater flexibility to provide on- and off-premises sales.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 12, 2014
ncs/lgc

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