

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1097
Economic Matters

(Garrett County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

**Garrett County - Alcoholic Beverages - Sunday Sales for On-Premises
Consumption**

This bill submits to a referendum of the qualified voters of election districts or precincts of election districts 2, 3-1, 3-2, 4, 5, 8-1, 8-2, 10, 12, 13, 14-2, and 16 in Garrett County, at the November 2014 general election, a question of whether to authorize specified Sunday on-premises sales of alcoholic beverages in the applicable district or precinct. The Garrett County Board of License Commissioners must provide to the Department of Legislative Services, by December 1, 2014, a complete list of all election districts and precincts in Garrett County in which Sunday sales of alcoholic beverages are authorized. Those districts and precincts must then be listed in a specified location in the Annotated Code of Maryland by the publishers of the Code.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2014. If the specified Sunday on-premises sales of alcoholic beverages are approved in an election district or precinct of an election district, the authority for such sales becomes effective December 15, 2014, in that district or precinct.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Garrett County revenues may increase by up to \$6,600 in FY 2015 and \$3,750 annually thereafter due to fee collections. Expenditures are not affected.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: In Garrett County, Sunday on-premises 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 or precinct of an election district in which voters approve a local referendum in favor of Sunday on-premises sales (which currently are election districts/precincts 1, 6, 7, 9, and 14-1). The authorization only applies to (1) a holder of a Class C service club license; (2) a holder of a Class B license, special 2-day Class C license, special 6-day Class C license, or special 12-day Class C license, provided the sales are in conjunction with a meal; or (3) a holder of a Class D license, subject to certain conditions.

A holder of a Class C service club license, Class B license, or Class D license must pay, in addition to the usual license fee, \$250 for the privilege of Sunday sales. At the time those licenses are issued, the Garrett County Board of License Commissioners must also charge a \$250 issuing fee.

The election districts or precincts of election districts affected by the bill are the remaining election districts/precincts in which Sunday on-premises sales are not currently authorized.

Local Revenues: Garrett County revenues increase by up to \$6,600 in fiscal 2015 and \$3,750 annually thereafter, reflecting issuing fees paid in fiscal 2015 and annual fees paid beginning December 15, 2014 (accounting for a quarterly prorated fee amount in fiscal 2015 – three-fourths of the full fee). This estimate assumes that as many as 15 businesses may qualify for Sunday on-premises sales if sales are approved in each of the election districts/precincts.

Small Business Effect: Small businesses in the affected election districts/precincts may substantially benefit from additional revenue generated from Sunday on-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 27, 2014
mc/lgc Revised - House Third Reader/Clarification - March 21, 2014
Revised - Enrolled Bill - April 16, 2014

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