

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2016 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader

Senate Bill 878

(Senator Edwards)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

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Allegany County - Alcoholic Beverages - Sunday Sales

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This bill alters the hours of sale, from 1 p.m. to 2 a.m. the following day to 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. the following day, for a holder of a Class D beer license; a Class D beer and light wine (BW) license; a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (BWL) license; and a Class D BWL license in Allegany County under specified circumstances. The bill also alters the hours of sale, from 1 p.m. to 2 a.m. the following day to 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. the following day, for a 2-day Sunday sales permit purchased by a holder of a Class D beer license, a Class D BW license, a Class B BWL license, and a Class D BWL license in Allegany County under specified circumstances.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2016.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** The bill does not materially affect Allegany County operations or finances.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal overall, but potential meaningful impact on licensees who are able to open earlier on Sundays and experience increased sales.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** In Allegany County, under specified circumstances, a holder of a Class D beer license, a Class D BW license, a Class B BWL license, and a Class D BWL license may sell alcoholic beverages for on- or off-premises consumption between 7 a.m. and 2 a.m. the following day Monday through Saturday, and on Sunday between 1 p.m. and

2 a.m. the following day. Sunday sales may only occur if a holder was issued the underlying license for use in a restaurant in a permanent building with sufficient space where meals are usually prepared, sold, or served to the public when the restaurant is regularly open for business. The fee for the Sunday sales permit is \$250.

Specified license holders may also purchase, for a \$50 fee per use, a 2-day Sunday sales permit that authorizes the holder to sell alcoholic beverages in line with the underlying license for on-premises consumption on up to two Sundays a year from 1 p.m. to 2 a.m. the following day.

**Background:** In fiscal 2015, 157 alcoholic beverages licenses were issued in Allegany County, including 4 Class D beer licenses, 50 Class D BW licenses, 3 Class B BWL licenses, and 58 Class D BWL licenses.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 995 (Allegany County Delegation) - Economic Matters.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 19, 2016  
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