

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 440 (Harford County Senators)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Harford County - Alcoholic Beverages - Establishing the Minimum Capital
Investment for Class DBR Licenses

This bill specifies that the holder of a Class DBR license in Harford County may sell beer brewed at the brewery for off-premises consumption to the extent the license holder is authorized to do so under the holder's Class 5 brewery license. The bill also requires the holder of a Class DBR license in Harford County to make a minimum capital investment of \$250,000 for new improvements to the facility and new equipment used on the premises, exclusive of the cost of land, buildings, or leases. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill is not anticipated to materially impact Harford County finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: In Harford County, a Class DBR license may be issued to a holder of a Class 5 brewery license. The license serves as the on-premises consumption permit and the license equivalent to a Class D license. The license holder is not required to sell food but is required to provide prepackaged snacks. The license holder may sell beer brewed at the brewery not exceeding 500 barrels per year for on-premises consumption but may not sell any beer for off-premises consumption other than what is allowed under the license holder's Class 5 brewery license. The value of the equipment used on the premises may

be used toward meeting any minimum capital investment requirement imposed on a holder of the license. The hours of sale are as provided for a Class D beer, wine, and liquor license (Monday through Sunday, from 8 a.m. to 2 a.m. the following day), and the annual license fee is \$500.

Background: In fiscal 2017, 202 alcoholic beverages licenses were issued for use in Harford County. There are currently two Class DBR licenses issued for use in the county.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

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