

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader

House Bill 1003  
Economic Matters

(Delegate Clippinger)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Alcoholic Beverages - Licenses Issued by Different Local Licensing Boards to  
Single License Holder - Authorized

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This bill authorizes a single individual to hold multiple Class B beer, wine, and liquor licenses or equivalent licenses issued by different local licensing boards for restaurants, hotels, or motels. The number of licenses that a single individual may hold is only limited by the cap imposed by each local licensing board on the licenses that the board issues. The licenses may be issued for use by the license holder, a partnership, a corporation, an unincorporated association, or a limited liability company. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018.**

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** The bill does not directly affect State operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** Local government revenues increase to the extent that the bill results in additional Class B beer, wine, and liquor or equivalent licenses being issued; however, any such effect cannot be reliably estimated. Local governments can likely handle any additional enforcement activity using existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal overall, but potential meaningful for a small business that is able to obtain multiple alcoholic beverages licenses under the bill.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** In Maryland, a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license allows a restaurant, hotel, or motel to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption on- and/or off-premises, depending on the license. State law generally limits the number of alcoholic beverages

licenses that may be issued to a single license holder to 1; however, there are exceptions in some jurisdictions. For example, with certain specified requirements, Montgomery County authorizes a single license holder to obtain up to 10 Class B beer, wine, and liquor licenses.

Some jurisdictions issue other classifications of licenses that authorize alcoholic beverages to be sold in a restaurant, hotel, or motel. For example, Anne Arundel County issues a Class BLX license that may be used to sell beer, wine, and liquor in a luxury-type restaurant in the 27<sup>th</sup> legislative district of the county, and Montgomery County issues a Class BD-BWL license that authorizes the sale of beer and wine for on- and off-premises consumption and authorizes the sale of liquor for on-premises consumption.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Montgomery County; Baltimore City; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 18, 2018  
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