

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 1325  
Economic Matters

(Howard County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Howard County - Alcoholic Beverages - Class C License and Class C and Class D  
Per Diem Entertainment Venue Licenses  
Ho. Co. 20-18

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This bill establishes (1) a seven-day Class C beer, wine, and liquor (BWL) license; (2) a Class C per diem entertainment venue BWL license; and (3) a Class D per diem entertainment venue BWL license in Howard County. **The bill takes effect April 10, 2018.**

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Howard County revenues increase minimally due to additional license and application fees. Howard County can monitor new licenses with existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Bill Summary:** “Entertainment venue” means a facility that is used as a cinema, theater, amphitheater, concert hall, or sports stadium.

*Seven-day Class C Beer, Wine, and Liquor License*

A seven-day Class C BWL license authorizes the holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor at retail for on-premises consumption. The board must determine the annual license fee.

### *Class C Per Diem Entertainment Venue License*

The board may issue the Class C per diem entertainment venue license to the holder of a Class C BWL license for use in an entertainment venue that is at least 200,000 square feet. The license authorizes the holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor on an immediately adjacent licensed premises for consumption on the premises of the holder of the per diem license and on the adjacent licensed premises. License holders are responsible for all sale and consumption under their control or on their premises and compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. The board may not issue the per diem license unless the property owner of the adjacent licensed premises provides the board with a statement authorizing the use of the licensed premises. The hours of sale under the Class C per diem entertainment venue BWL license are Monday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., and the board must determine the annual license fee.

### *Class D Per Diem Entertainment Venue License*

The board may issue the Class D per diem entertainment venue license to the holder of a Class D BWL license for use in an entertainment venue that is at least 200,000 square feet. The license authorizes the holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor on an immediately adjacent licensed premises for consumption on the premises of the holder of the per diem license and on the adjacent licensed premises. License holders are responsible for all sale and consumption under their control or on their premises and compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. The board may not issue the per diem license unless the property owner of the adjacent licensed premises provides the board with a statement authorizing the use of the licensed premises. The hours of sale under the Class D per diem entertainment venue BWL license are Monday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., and the board must determine the annual license fee.

### **Current Law:**

#### *Class C Beer License*

The Howard County Board of License Commissioners may issue a Class C beer license to a club that is composed exclusively of members who served in the armed forces of the United States, is affiliated with a national organization, and meets specified size and membership requirements. The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer at retail to members of a club and their guests at the place described in the license for on-premises consumption. The annual license fee is \$25.

### *Class C Beer and Wine License*

The Howard County Board of License Commissioners may issue a Class C beer and wine six-day license to a club that has held regular meetings at an established headquarters for one year before the application for the license is made. The license authorizes the holder to sell beer and wine to a member of a club and guests of members, at retail, for on-premises consumption. The annual license fee is \$150. The holder of the license may purchase a Sunday permit for an additional annual fee of \$75.

**Background:** In fiscal 2017, 285 alcoholic beverages licenses were issued for use in Howard County.

**Local Fiscal Effect:** Howard County revenues increase for each new license issued; however, because the bill does not specify an annual fee, an estimate is not available at this time. Any increase in revenues is not anticipated to be significant, and any increase in enforcement activity can likely be absorbed with existing resources.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 14, 2018  
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