

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1435 (Prince George's County Delegation)
Economic Matters

**Prince George's County - Alcoholic Beverages Licenses - Volunteer Fire
Department
PG 305-18**

This bill authorizes the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners to issue a Class C (fraternal/sororal/service organization) beer, wine, and liquor (BWL) license to a volunteer fire department. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Prince George's County revenues increase by \$4,830 in FY 2019, \$5,950 in 2020, and \$4,550 annually thereafter from application and license renewal fees. Prince George's County can handle any enforcement activity with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Class C (fraternal/sororal/service organization) BWL license may be issued for use by a local unit of a lodge or chapter of a nonprofit and nationwide fraternal, sororal, or service organization that:

- is composed solely of inducted members;
- was operating in the county before the license application was made;
- has at least 100 members paying dues of at least \$5 per year, per member; and

- owns or operates a home or clubhouse that is principally for the use of its members and guests when accompanied by members.

The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption by a member or guest accompanied by a member. The license holder may allow a person that has leased a private room or other area of the licensed premises for a private social gathering to bring beer, wine, and liquor onto the licensed premises for on-premises consumption.

The license holder may sell beer, wine, and liquor from 6 a.m. to 2 a.m. the following day. Restrictions on the sale of alcoholic beverages on Sunday do not apply. The annual license fee is \$910.

Local Revenues: Prince George’s County advises that there are currently 14 volunteer fire departments that would be eligible for the license under the bill. However, it is estimated that only a total of 5 would apply – 3 in fiscal 2019 and 2 additional in fiscal 2020. Accordingly, license fee revenues increase by an estimated \$4,830 in fiscal 2019 and by \$5,950 in fiscal 2020. This estimate includes an initial \$700 application fee for each license. Revenues increase annually thereafter by \$4,550 for the annual renewal fees of the five licensees.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George’s County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 16, 2018
nb/tso

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