

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 507

(Frederick County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Frederick County - Alcoholic Beverages - Banquet Facility License

This bill repeals the capital investment requirement for a Class B-BF (banquet facility) beer, wine, and liquor license in Frederick County. Instead, the bill requires a full commercial kitchen and adequate public bathroom facilities. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Frederick County revenues increase minimally from additional application and license fees. Frederick County can handle enforcement with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: The Frederick County Board of License Commissioners may issue a Class B-BF (banquet facility) beer, wine, and liquor license for use by a banquet facility that:

- accommodates the public for banquets, parties, meetings, and similar functions;
- contains a dining room with adequate facilities for preparing and serving full-course meals for at least 100 individuals who are inside the facility or outside on the premises at one seating; and
- has a capital investment of at least \$250,000, excluding the cost of the land, buildings, and leases.

The license authorizes the license holder to sell at retail, beer, wine, and liquor by the drink or by the bottle for on-premises consumption if (1) the beer, wine, and liquor are sold only during the function; (2) the license holder does not sell beer, wine, and liquor for off-premises consumption, except as specified; (3) the license holder does not allow beer, wine, and liquor to be carried off the premises; and (4) food is provided at the function where the beer, wine, and liquor are provided.

The license holder may sell beer, wine, and liquor for off-premises consumption if the beer, wine, and liquor is in a collectible bottle commemorating a special anniversary or event and is sold not more than 30 calendar days before the special anniversary or event.

The hours of sale are Monday through Saturday, for on- and off-premises consumption, from 6 a.m. to 2 a.m. the following day. On Sunday, the hours of sale for on-premises consumption are generally from 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. the following day, except for specified events approved by the board. On Sunday, the hours of sale for off-premises consumption are from 1 p.m. to 2 a.m. the following day.

A license holder may not sell beer, wine, or liquor at a bar or counter on Sunday.

The annual license fee is \$1,500.

Local Revenues: By eliminating the \$250,000 capital investment requirement, additional businesses would be eligible for the banquet facility license in Frederick County, and as a result local revenues increase. However, the number of additional licenses that would be issued is expected to be minimal.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 263 (Senators Young and Hough) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 15, 2018
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