

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2019 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader**

Senate Bill 920

(Senator Eckardt)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

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**Talbot County - Alcoholic Beverages - Election Days**

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This bill repeals the prohibition on the sale or provision of alcoholic beverages within an election district in Talbot County on election days during the hours when the polls are open. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2019.**

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** The bill is not anticipated to materially affect Talbot County finances or operations.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Alcoholic beverages license holders in Talbot County may not, directly or indirectly, sell or provide any alcoholic beverage within an election district or precinct of the county on the day of a general, special, or primary election while the polls are open. A person who violates this provision is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$100 for each offense.

Restaurant license holders, however, are exempted from this prohibition and may provide alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption on the day of an election within Talbot County.

**Background:** In fiscal 2018, there were 135 alcoholic beverages licenses issued in Talbot County.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 1077 (Talbot County Delegation) - Economic Matters.

**Information Source(s):** Comptroller's Office; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 25, 2019  
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