

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

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

House Bill 576

(Carroll County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

---

**Carroll County - Alcoholic Beverages - Required Information on Application**

---

This bill alters the “petition of support” requirement for alcoholic beverages license applications in Carroll County. The bill removes the requirement that the petition signers both know of the proposed business location and believe the business location is a suitable location for such a business. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2019.**

---

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

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

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

---

**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Generally, an application for a local alcoholic beverages license in the State must include a “petition of support” signed by at least 10 property-owning residents who are registered voters of the precinct in which the business is to be conducted stating (1) the length of time each of the residents has been acquainted with the applicant; (2) that they have reviewed the application and believe the statements within the application are true and the applicant is suitable to obtain the license; and (3) that they are familiar with the location of the business and believe that the location is suitable for such a business.

**Background:** In fiscal 2018, there were 157 liquor licenses in Carroll County.

---

## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** SB 298 (Carroll County Senators) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 8, 2019  
mag/tso Third Reader - March 19, 2019

---

Analysis by: Thomas S. Elder

Direct Inquiries to:  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510