

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2019 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 388
Economic Matters

(Charles County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Charles County - Alcoholic Beverages - View of Licensed Premises

This bill alters the requirement in Charles County that an alcoholic beverages license holder, their agent, or their employee only sell alcohol in a room with at least one plain glass window or door allowing an individual standing on the outside to observe the interior. The bill authorizes the licensed establishment to install a protective covering over an exterior door or window of the licensed premises if the covering is (1) used only when the premises is not occupied; (2) designed to protect the premises from unlawful intrusion or destruction; and (3) secured only from the exterior of the premises. Any protective covering must not prevent an inspection and search of the licensed premises as specified under § 6-202 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2019.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

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

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Licensed establishments in Charles County must have at least one plain glass window or door allowing an individual standing on the outside to observe the interior of the licensed premises at all hours.

Background: In fiscal 2018, there were 175 alcoholic beverages licenses issued in Charles County.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 13, 2019
mm/tso Third Reader - March 20, 2019
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