

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2021 Session

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

House Bill 1242  
Economic Matters

(Frederick County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

---

**Frederick County - Alcoholic Beverages - Consumption Permits**

---

This bill establishes a beer and wine consumption permit (BWC) and a beer, wine, and liquor consumption permit (BWLC) in Frederick County. The Frederick County Board of License Commissioners is authorized to issue these permits to holders of Class A licenses, as specified. The annual fee for the BWC permit is \$200, and the annual fee for a BWLC permit is \$400. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2021.**

---

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Frederick County revenues increase to the extent BWC and BWLC permits are issued under the bill. Frederick County can handle enforcement activities with existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal overall, but potential meaningful impact for permit holders from sales of alcohol for on-premises consumption, as specified, under the bill.

---

**Analysis**

**Bill Summary:** The BWC permit authorizes the holder to allow for on-premises consumption of beer and wine. An applicant for the permit is required to submit to the board an application on a form that the board provides. The board may issue the permit without a public hearing. If an initial permit application is denied, the applicant may request a public hearing before the board. Renewal of the permit may be made when the license holder's Class A license is renewed. An individual may consume up to 12 total announces of beer or up to 6 total announces of wine only on the licensed premises of the permit

holder. The permit holder is prohibited from allowing an open container to be taken from the licensed premises and from serving open alcoholic beverages from a drive-through window.

The BWLC permit authorizes the holder to allow for on-premises consumption of beer, wine, and liquor. An applicant for the permit is required to submit to the board an application on a form that the board provides. The board may issue the permit without a public hearing. If an initial permit application is denied, the applicant may request a public hearing before the board. Renewal of the permit may be made when the license holder's Class A license is renewed. An individual may consume up to 12 total ounces of beer, up to 6 total ounces of wine, or up to 1.5 total ounces of liquor, as specified, only on the licensed premises of the permit holder. The permit holder is prohibited from allowing an open container to be taken from the licensed premises and from serving open alcoholic beverages from a drive-through window.

**Current Law:** In Frederick County, a Class A beer and wine license and a Class A beer, wine, and liquor license authorize the license holders to sell specified alcoholic beverages, at retail, at the license premises. License holders are generally required to sell alcohol in a sealed package or container that may not be opened or its contents consumed on the licensed premises.

---

### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** SB 793 (Senator Young) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 16, 2021  
rh/tso Third Reader - March 22, 2021

---

Analysis by: Hillary J. Cleckler

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