

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2021 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 814

(Delegate Morgan)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

St. Mary's County – Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Annual Fees

This emergency bill requires the St. Mary's County Board of License Commissioners to waive the entire annual licensing fee for the 2021-2022 licensing period for any alcoholic beverages license issued by the county that permits the holder to sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption only at a bar or restaurant if the license holder paid the fee for the 2020-2021 licensing period. These provisions remain in effect through June 30, 2023, after which time they are abrogated with no further action required by the General Assembly.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: St. Mary's County revenues decrease by approximately \$73,000 in FY 2022 from specified license fees being waived, as discussed below. County expenditures are not affected. **This bill imposes a mandate on a unit of local government.**

Small Business Effect: Small businesses in St. Mary's County with a license for on-premises consumption who paid the annual fee for the 2020-2021 licensing period will benefit from the waived fee during the 2021-2022 licensing period.

Analysis

Current Law: St. Mary's County issues multiple alcoholic beverages licenses that permit on-premises consumption. Most commonly, the types of licenses that permit on-premises consumption in the county are Class B (hotel or restaurant) or Class D (tavern or bar) licenses.

Local Revenues: St. Mary's County estimates that revenues will decrease by approximately \$73,000 in fiscal 2022 as annual license fees for licenses permitting the on-premises consumption of alcoholic beverages only at a bar or restaurant are waived for the 2021-2022 licensing period as specified under the bill.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): St. Mary's County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 15, 2021
rh/tso Revised - Correction - February 16, 2021
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