

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2022 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader

House Bill 1106  
Economic Matters

(Washington County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Washington County - Alcoholic Beverages Licenses - Wine

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This bill replaces references to light wine in Washington County alcoholic beverages licenses with references to wine (without otherwise altering the substance of the statutory provisions relating to the licenses). The bill correspondingly repeals the definition of light wine applicable to alcoholic beverages licenses in Washington County. In addition, the bill authorizes the Washington County Board of License Commissioners to issue a refillable container permit for wine, as specified. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2022.**

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Washington County revenues increase, beginning in FY 2023, by \$50 for each refillable container permit for wine issued under the bill.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal overall, but some small business license holders may benefit from the ability to obtain a refillable container permit for wine.

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Analysis

**Bill Summary/Current Law:**

*Light Wine*

Under current law, in Washington County, “light wine” means wine that contains up to 15.5% of alcohol by volume. The bill repeals this definition and substitutes references in county licenses from “light wine” to “wine.” Accordingly, the definition of “wine” under

§ 1-101 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article becomes the applicable definition relating to references to wine in Washington County.

*Refillable Container Permit – Wine*

The bill authorizes the board to issue a refillable container permit for wine to a holder of a Class A wine license. An applicant for the permit must complete the form that the board provides. The hours of sale for the permit begin at the same time as those for the underlying license and end at midnight. The annual permit fee is \$50. Otherwise, the statewide standards and requirements relating to refillable container permits under § 4-1105 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article apply.

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 17, 2022  
fnu2/tso Third Reader - March 18, 2022

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