

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2023 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader - Revised**

House Bill 990  
Economic Matters

(Frederick County Delegation)

Finance

---

**Frederick County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class B-HTF (Hatchet Throwing Facility) License**

---

This bill establishes a Class B-HTF (hatchet throwing facility) beer and wine license in Frederick County and authorizes the Frederick County Board of License Commissioners to issue a license for use by a hatchet throwing facility that is open to the public; features at least five hatchet throwing pits; and, in the board’s discretion (based on an approved floor plan), has ample space and accommodations predominantly dedicated to hatchet throwing pits and seating for viewing the pits. The license authorizes the licensee to sell beer and wine for on-premises consumption so long as the licensee offers food on site at all times when alcoholic beverages are being sold. The annual license fee is \$160. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2023.**

---

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Frederick County revenues increase to the extent the board issues any Class B-HTF licenses under the bill. Frederick County can handle any additional enforcement activity with existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** Hatchet throwing facilities in Frederick County that obtain an alcoholic beverages license may realize higher revenues as a result of being able to sell beer and wine on site.

---

## Analysis

**Bill Summary:** The bill specifies that a licensee's annual sales from alcoholic beverages must not exceed 35% of the licensee's annual gross revenues. Hatchet throwing rental fees and food sales must comprise, respectively, at least 50% and 15% of the licensee's annual gross revenues. Before the board may renew a Class B-HTF beer and wine license, the licensee must provide the board with an annual gross revenues report showing that the licensee has met the specified minimum revenues percentages for hatchet throwing rental fees and food sales and stayed under the specified maximum revenues percentage for alcoholic beverages.

**Current Law:** In Frederick County, the board is authorized to issue specified alcoholic beverage licenses, if certain conditions are met, for use by a range of different venues. Examples include the following: art galleries engaged in the display and sale of original artwork; barbershops and beauty salons; cinemas; country and golf clubs; dinner theaters; hotel lobbies; municipal golf courses; and stadiums.

---

### Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 15, 2023  
km/tso Third Reader - March 21, 2023  
Revised - Amendment(s) - March 21, 2023

---

Analysis by: Ralph W. Kettell

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