

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2023 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader

House Bill 991  
Economic Matters

(Frederick County Delegation)

Finance

---

Frederick County - Alcoholic Beverages - Basket of Cheer

---

This bill repeals the restriction that an alcoholic beverages licensee in Frederick County, who has been issued a basket of cheer permit, may only provide a basket of cheer containing alcoholic beverages, as a prize at a benefit performance, if the alcoholic beverages were produced in Maryland. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2023.**

---

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** The bill does not materially affect Frederick County operations or finances.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

---

Analysis

**Current Law:** The Frederick County Board of License Commissioners is authorized to issue a basket of cheer permit, at no cost, to a Class C *per diem* beer and wine (BW) licensee or a Class C *per diem* beer, wine, and liquor (BWL) licensee. The permit authorizes the licensee to provide, as a prize at a benefit performance, a basket of cheer of alcoholic beverages produced in Maryland for off-premises consumption. A basket may contain up to 288 ounces of beer and 2.25 liters of wine. For a Class C *per diem* BWL licensee, a basket may also contain up to 2.25 liters of liquor. A licensee may raffle up to 10 baskets of cheer per benefit performance; the licensee must obtain the alcoholic beverages contained in each basket from a licensed alcoholic beverages retailer.

---

## **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 20, 2023

---

Analysis by: Ralph W. Kettell

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