

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2023 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader

House Bill 277  
Economic Matters

(Montgomery County Delegation)

Finance

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Montgomery County – Alcoholic Beverages – Holders of Class B–BWL  
(Clubhouse/Lodge) License and Class 7 Micro–Brewery License MC 16–23

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This bill clarifies that the holder of a Class B-BWL (clubhouse/lodge) license in Montgomery County that is issued a Class 7 micro-brewery license is not subject to the general licensure restriction on holders of Class 7 micro-brewery licenses. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2023.**

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** The bill does not directly affect governmental operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** The bill is not anticipated to materially affect Montgomery County operations or finances.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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Analysis

**Current Law:**

*Montgomery County Class B-BWL (Clubhouse/Lodge) License*

The Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners is authorized to issue a Class B-BWL (clubhouse/lodge) license to the executive director of the Montgomery County Revenue Authority or the designee of the executive director, for use by a multiuse facility that has a golf course, a restaurant, a clubhouse, a tasting bar, and the

catering of events anywhere on the property. The Class B-BWL (clubhouse/lodge) license authorizes the license holder to:

- sell beer and wine for off-premises consumption.
- sell beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption; and
- offer samples of alcoholic beverages at no charge or for a fee.

Specified requirements regarding the ratio of food and alcohol sales of a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license in Montgomery County do not apply to a Class B-BWL (clubhouse/lodge) license holder. The license holder may also hold (1) a Class 4 limited winery license and (2) a Class 7 micro-brewery license, as specified. The annual license fee is \$1,000.

#### *Class 7 Micro-brewery License*

A Class 7 micro-brewery license is issued by the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission, and the annual license fee may not exceed \$500. The license holder may collectively brew, bottle, or contract for up to 45,000 barrels of beer each calendar year, and up to 5,000 of those barrels may be sold for on-premises consumption each year, as specified.

Generally, the holder of a Class 7 micro-brewery license may hold or have financial interest in one retail license that does not apply to the premises to which a Class 7 micro-brewery license applies.

Class 7 micro-brewery (on- and off-sale) licenses in the county may be issued to the holder of (1) a Class B BWL (on-sale) license that is issued for use on the premises of a restaurant located in the county; (2) a Class D beer and wine license that is issued for the sale of beer and wine, at retail, at the place described in the license, for on- and off-sale premises consumption, as specified; (3) a Class H beer and wine license that is issued for the sale of beer and wine at a hotel or restaurant, at retail, at the place described in the license, for on-premises consumption; (4) a Class BD-BWL license that is issued for the sale of beer and wine for on- and off-premises consumption, and liquor for on-premises consumption, at the place described in the license; (5) a Class B-BWL (clubhouse/lodge) license that is issued for the sale of beer and wine for on- and off- premises consumption, at the place described in the license; or (6) a Class D beer, wine, and liquor license that is issued for the sale of beer, wine and liquor for on-premises consumption, at the place described in the license.

## Additional Information

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

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Montgomery County; Alcohol and Tobacco Commission; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 16, 2023  
rh/tso Third Reader - March 20, 2023

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Analysis by: Thomas S. Elder

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