

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 835

(Charles County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Finance

Charles County - Alcoholic Beverages - Baseball Stadium License - Alterations

This bill prohibits, in Charles County, a Class B-Stadium (baseball stadium) beer, wine, and liquor license holder from selling alcoholic beverages in parking areas of the stadium. The bill authorizes patrons to consume and carry beer, wine, and liquor anywhere on the stadium premises, excluding any parking areas. Finally, the bill repeals the authorization for a Class B-Stadium license to sell beer, wine, and liquor served in Styrofoam containers on the licensed premises and clarifies these alcoholic beverages must be served in plastic, paper, or other nonglass containers. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

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

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: A Class B-Stadium license may only be issued in Charles County to the owner of a professional team franchise or a private concessionaire that is under contract with either the county or a professional baseball team franchise. Beer, wine, and liquor may only be sold at the stadium to individuals attending baseball games or other events being held at the stadium and only for on-premises consumption.

Beer, wine, and liquor must be served in plastic, Styrofoam, or paper containers on the stadium premises, except in enclosed stadium dining areas, where beer, wine, and liquor may be served in a glass.

A patron may consume and carry beer and wine anywhere on the stadium premises; however, a patron may consume liquor only in the enclosed stadium dining area or bar and may not carry liquor out of these areas. Individuals are not permitted to carry alcoholic beverages onto or from the premises.

The Charles County Board of License Commissioners may adopt additional regulations on the number of outlets authorized to dispense alcoholic beverages, the manner of dispensing alcoholic beverages, and the hours and days of the sale of alcoholic beverages at the licensed venue. The annual license fee is \$2,200.

Additional Information

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

Designated Cross File: SB 731 (Charles County Senators) - Finance.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 11, 2025
rh/tso Third Reader - March 17, 2025

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