

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader

House Bill 866

(Frederick County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Finance

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Frederick County - Alcoholic Beverages - Class C (Theater) Beer, Wine, and  
Liquor License

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This bill establishes a Class C (theater) beer, wine, and liquor license in Frederick County and authorizes the Frederick County Board of License Commissioners to issue the license to a theater with seating. A license holder is authorized to sell beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption from one hour before to one hour after (1) a regular performance, (2) a fund-raiser performance that benefits the theater, or (3) an event hosted by an outside group that has rented the theater. The annual license fee is \$150. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2025.**

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Frederick County revenues increase, beginning in FY 2026, to the extent that theater beer, wine, and liquor licenses are issued under the bill. Frederick County can handle any additional enforcement activity with existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal overall, but potentially meaningful for a theater that is able to sell beer, wine, and liquor at their shows or events.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** In Frederick County, there are a number of licenses for specific types of organizations and venues, including, but not limited to, art galleries, conference centers, dinner theaters, and stadiums. The county also issues theater licenses where beer and wine are allowed to be sold and consumed, as specified.

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## **Additional Information**

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

**Designated Cross File:** SB 670 (Frederick County Senators) - Finance.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 12, 2025  
rh/tso Third Reader - March 18, 2025

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