Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly 2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE First Reader

Senate Bill 939 Finance (Senator Hayes)

Baltimore City - Alcoholic Beverages - Authorizations and Revisions

This bill requires the Baltimore City Board of License Commissioners to impose a fee of up to \$250 for expedited processing of a Class C per diem license application if that application is submitted less than two weeks before the scheduled event requiring the per diem license. The bill also authorizes the board to issue a Class C beer and light wine license, a Class C beer and wine license, and a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license to specified locations in the 40th alcoholic beverages district. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Baltimore City revenues increase beginning in FY 2026 to the extent additional licenses are issued or fees are imposed under the bill. Baltimore City expenditures are not affected.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The board is authorized to adopt regulations relating to the Class C per diem license application process, including the denial or revocation of a Class C per diem license.

The bill authorizes the board to issue a Class C beer and light wine license in the 2500 block of West North Avenue in the 40th alcoholic beverages district to be used during on-campus

events if (1) the applicant executes a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Greater Mondawmin Coordinating Council and (2) the board waives any requirements that sales can be made only to members and the guests of members.

The board may issue a Class C beer and wine license on the odd side of the 800 block of North Howard Street in the 40th alcoholic beverages district if (1) the applicant does not convert the license to a different license class; (2) the applicant does not transfer the license to a different location; (3) alcoholic beverages are served only to patrons indoors; (4) alcoholic beverages sales begin not earlier than 10:00 a.m. and end not later than 9:00 p.m.; (5) the applicant provides not more than two 12-ounce offerings of beer or two 6-ounce offerings of wine by the glass for on-premises consumption by a patron while the patron is provided a barbering service, as specified; (6) the board waives any requirements that sales can be made only to members and the guests of members; and (7) the applicant executes an MOU with the Mount Vernon – Belvedere Association.

The board may issue a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license for a restaurant on the even side of the 1100 block of Hollins Street and for a restaurant on the even side of the unit block of South Carrollton Avenue in the 40th alcoholic beverages district if (1) the applicant executes an MOU with the Hollins Roundhouse Association; and (2) the board waives the minimum seating requirement of 75 individuals.

Current Law:

Class C Per Diem Licenses – Generally

The board must set the license fee for a Class C per diem beer license and a Class C per diem beer and wine license, and a Class C per diem beer, wine, and liquor license. Additionally, the board is authorized to collect from the license holder reimbursement for costs incurred while monitoring the event which the license is issued.

A Class C per diem beer license, Class C per diem beer and wine, or Class C per diem beer, wine, and liquor license entitles the license holder to exercise any of the privileges conferred by the respective class of license: (1) for the use of a person holding an entertainment event that is conducted by a club; (2) at the place described in the license; and (3) for a period not exceeding seven consecutive days.

Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor Licenses—Generally

The board may issue a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license to a restaurant in the 40th alcoholic beverages district if that restaurant (1) has a minimum capital investment, not including the cost of land and buildings, of \$200,000 for restaurant facilities and (2) has a minimum seating capacity of 75 individuals.

Additional Information

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

three years.

Designated Cross File: HB 1172 (Delegate Amprey) - Economic Matters.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 13, 2025

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