



Montgomery County

Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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HB 298

DATE: February 17, 2020

SPONSOR: Montgomery County Delegation

ASSIGNED TO: Economic Matters

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POSITION: SUPPORT

Montgomery County – Alcoholic Beverages – Hours of Consumption MC 09–20

House Bill 298 makes two changes to the laws governing hours of consumption at licensed premises in Montgomery County. The first change repeals the hours prohibiting consumption listed in § 25-2001 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article because those hours are obsolete. Montgomery County currently has licenses that allow for the sale of alcoholic beverages beyond the hours of consumption listed in § 25-2001. This section will be amended to allow consumption only during the hours of sale permitted under the license. The second change repeals § 25-2007 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article in its entirety because the hours listed are also obsolete.

This bill also repeals § 25-2006 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article, which authorizes the Board of License Commissioners to issue a permit to on-premises license holders to extend the sale of alcoholic beverages from 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. on January 1. Legislation passed in 2017 and 2018 permitting the sale of alcohol to be extended by one hour “if the federal government has designated the following day a public holiday.” New Year’s Day has been designated a public holiday by the federal government rendering § 25-2006 obsolete.

Montgomery County supports House Bill 298.