

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2015 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 523

(Delegate Beitzel)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Alcoholic Beverages - Garrett County - Multiple Event License

This bill requires an organization that is issued a special multiple event Class C license by the Garrett County Board of License Commissioners to ensure that at least one server who is certified by an approved alcohol awareness program is on the premises when alcoholic beverages are served. For a license holder who has an approved licensed premises, alcoholic beverages may be stored between individual licensed events on the licensed premises or in a storage area that the board approves if the alcoholic beverages are in a specially identified locked and secured location and are not sold or consumed except during a licensed event. The bill establishes provisions related to inspections and recordkeeping.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not materially affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: Garrett County can enforce the bill's provisions with existing resources. Revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful impact on affected small businesses in Garrett County due to the requirement that at least one individual who is certified by an approved alcohol awareness program must be on the premises when alcoholic beverages are served.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The holder of a special multiple event Class C license must (1) keep complete and accurate records of all alcoholic beverages purchased and sold on the licensed premises, including pre- and post-event inventories; (2) maintain the records on the

premises for two years; and (3) make the records available for inspection. Authorized personnel of the Comptroller's Office and the board may inspect the premises of a license holder.

Current Law: In Garrett County, the board may issue a special multiple event Class C license to an organization that otherwise qualifies for a special Class C license. The annual fee for a special multiple event license is (1) \$125 for up to 5 events per year; (2) \$250 for up to 12 events per year; (3) \$375 for up to 18 events per year; and (4) \$500 for up to 24 events per year. The board may not issue more than one special multiple event license to an organization in a license year.

Background: Garrett County advises that 14 special multiple event Class C licenses were issued in fiscal 2014 (13 for up to 5 events per year and 1 for up to 12 events per year).

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None designated; however, SB 715 (Senator Edwards – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) is identical.

Information Source(s): Garrett County, Comptroller's Office, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 19, 2015
min/lgc Revised - Correction - February 28, 2015
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