

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2016 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 1353
Economic Matters

(Calvert County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Calvert County - Alcoholic Beverages - Special Event Festival Permit

This bill alters the requirement that an applicant for a special event festival beer, wine, and liquor permit demonstrate a reasonable expectation of attracting at least 750 customers to the special event, by lowering the threshold to 250 customers.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2016.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Minimal increase in local revenues from additional permit fees (\$100 for each permit issued). Calvert County can monitor permits with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: Minimal overall, but potential meaningful impact on small businesses that are able to receive special event festival permits, which may lead to an increase in sales.

Analysis

Current Law: The Calvert County Board of License Commissioners may issue a special event festival beer, wine, and liquor (on-sale) permit to a Class B or Class D license holder. The applicant must demonstrate a reasonable expectation of attracting at least 750 customers and commit to providing additional security personnel at the event for traffic, parking, and patrol purposes, if required by the board. Subject to the board's discretion, the permit authorizes the holder to operate additional bars or service counters for the sale

and service of alcoholic beverages inside or outside the licensed establishment for between one and three consecutive days. The permit fee is \$100.

Local Revenues: In fiscal 2015 there were 122 alcoholic beverages licenses in Calvert County, of which 61 were Class B licenses and 9 were Class D licenses. Accordingly, 70 licensees qualify to apply for a special event festival beer, wine, and liquor permit. The number of qualified licensees which will seek and obtain the additional permit is unknown.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Calvert County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 16, 2016
md/hlb

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