

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 900

(Harford County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Harford County - Alcoholic Beverages - Clubs, Firehouses, and Multiple Event Licenses

This bill authorizes a holder of specified Class C licenses in Harford County to sell or provide beer, wine, or liquor for on-premises consumption to nonmembers under specified circumstances. The bill also authorizes a fire department in Harford County to sell or provide beer and wine for on-premises consumption at an entertainment event under specified circumstances, and repeals the Class C-3 multiple event (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor (BWL) license in Harford County. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill is not anticipated to materially impact Harford County finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary:

Class C Licenses

A holder of a specified Class C-1, C-2, or C-3 BWL club license in Harford County may sell or provide beer, wine, or liquor for on-premises consumption by (1) nonmembers of the club that have rented or leased an area of the licensed premises for entertainment, a

conference, or a social event, and (2) guests who attend the event. The license holder must also contract to provide food at the event or ensure that food will be available. The bill does not prohibit a club from obtaining a Class C per diem license.

Multiple Event License for a Fire Department

A fire department in Harford County that holds a multiple event beer and wine (BW) license may sell or provide beer and wine for on-premises consumption at an entertainment event held by the fire department or by a person that has rented or leased an area of the licensed premises. The fire department must also contract to provide food at the event or ensure that food will be available.

Current Law: The board may issue a Class C-3 *multiple event* (on-sale) BWL license. The license entitles a club to sell or provide beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption by (1) nonmembers of the club who have leased an area of the licensed premises for entertainment, a conference, or a social event, and (2) guests who attend the event.

The board may issue a multiple event BW license to a fire department. The license may be used at an entertainment event held by the fire department.

Background: In fiscal 2017, 202 alcoholic beverages licenses were issued for use in Harford County.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 14, 2018
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