

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 752
Economic Matters

(Harford County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Harford County - Alcoholic Beverages - Wine Festival License - Repeal

This bill repeals the wine festival (WF) license in Harford County. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill is not anticipated to impact State finances or operations.

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

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: In Harford County, the Board of License Commissioners may issue a WF license to a holder of a retail license, Class 3 winery license, or Class 4 limited winery license. The license authorizes the holder to display and sell wine that is produced and processed in the State. A holder must display and sell wine at retail for on- and off-premises consumption during the hours and days designated for the wine festival. The board must choose a location for the festival that is not already licensed and must adopt regulations related to the festival. The license fee is \$20.

In addition to the various local festivals held throughout the State, the Comptroller's Office issues wine festival permits. The permit may be issued to a nonprofit organization and authorizes the permit holder to conduct a wine festival that lasts between one and three days. The permit fee is \$100.

Background: In 2017, the Harford County Wine Festival was held on September 30, and included live music, food, and an Oktoberfest-style beer garden.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 7, 2018
mm/tso Third Reader - March 13, 2018

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