

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2019 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader - Revised**

House Bill 770

(Anne Arundel County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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**Anne Arundel County - Alcoholic Beverages Licenses - Multiple License Interests**

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This bill authorizes the Anne Arundel County Board of License Commissioners to issue more than one Class B, Class H, or Class BLX license to an individual already holding an interest in a license, as specified. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2019.**

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Anne Arundel County revenues increase to the extent additional Class B, Class H, and Class BLX licenses are issued as a result of the bill. Monitoring of any additional licenses can be handled using existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** Overall minimal, but potentially meaningful for any small business already holding a Class B, Class H, or Class BLX license that obtains additional licenses as a result of the bill.

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**Analysis**

**Bill Summary:** In Anne Arundel County, except for an interest held or controlled by franchise operation or chain store operation, an individual may have an interest in more than one Class B, Class H, or Class BLX license issued by the board, regardless of whether that interest is held or controlled by direct or indirect ownership, stock ownership, interlocking directors or interlocking stock ownership, or any other direct or indirect manner.

**Current Law:** In Anne Arundel County, a person may generally not have an interest in more than one license issued by the board.

Class B beer and wine (BW) and Class B beer, wine, and liquor (BWL) licenses are generally held by restaurants or hotels for on- and off-premises consumption. The annual fee for a Class B BW license is \$480, and the annual fee for a Class B BWL license is \$1,080.

Class H BW and Class H BWL licenses are generally held by restaurants or hotels for on-premises consumption only. The annual fee for a Class H BW license is \$360, and the annual fee for a Class H BWL license is \$960.

Class BLX licenses are held by deluxe restaurants with at least 100 seats in addition to other specified criteria. The annual license fee is \$1,200.

**Background:** In fiscal 2018, there were 57 Class B BW and 288 Class B BWL licenses issued in Anne Arundel County. As of February 2019, Anne Arundel County advises that 207 Class H and 13 Class BLX licenses have been issued in the county.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Anne Arundel County; Comptroller's Office; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 14, 2019  
sb/tso Third Reader - March 19, 2019  
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