

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2019 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader

House Bill 297  
Economic Matters

(Montgomery County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

---

Montgomery County - Alcoholic Beverages - Sale of Chilled Beer and Chilled  
Wine  
MC 4-19

---

This bill authorizes Montgomery County Department of Liquor Control (DLC) dispensaries to sell chilled beer and chilled wine, dispensed from a keg, for off-premises consumption. Chilled beer may only be dispensed for the purpose of filling a refillable or nonrefillable container. Chilled wine may only be dispensed for the purpose of filling a refillable container. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2019.**

---

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** The bill is not anticipated to materially affect Montgomery County finances or operations.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

---

**Analysis**

**Current Law:** DLC dispensaries are authorized to sell, for off-premises consumption, only *nonchilled* beer, wine, and liquor; ice; bottled water; and items commonly associated with the serving or consumption of alcoholic beverages. Chapter 125 of 2018 authorized dispensaries to sell beer in refillable and nonrefillable containers and wine in refillable containers.

**Background:** As of November 2018, there were 25 dispensaries managed by the DLC. In fiscal 2018, there were 151 Class A off-sale beer and wine licenses issued in Montgomery County.

---

### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 4, 2019  
mag/tso Third Reader - March 19, 2019

---

Analysis by: Thomas S. Elder

Direct Inquiries to:  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510