

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2019 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Enrolled - Revised

House Bill 1157
Economic Matters

(Prince George's County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Prince George's County - Workgroup on Alcohol Outlet Density Zones
PG 303-19

This bill establishes a Workgroup on Alcohol Outlet Density Zones in Prince George's County, staffed by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), to identify potential areas with high concentrations of off-sale retail licenses as alcohol outlet density zones. The workgroup must submit recommendations to the House and Senate delegations for Prince George's County and the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners on or before December 1, 2019. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2019, and terminates December 31, 2020.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any expense reimbursements for workgroup members are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: Local government finances are not materially affected, as discussed below.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary: In accordance with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) *Guide for Measuring Alcohol Outlet Density*, the workgroup may identify potential areas with high concentrations of off-sale retail licenses as alcohol outlet density zones. In doing so, the workgroup may (1) propose each area that has 1.15 or more off-sale retail license holders per square mile as an alcohol outlet density zone and (2) consider any other relevant factors determined by the workgroup.

A member of the workgroup may not receive compensation but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the standard State travel regulations, as provided in the State budget.

Current Law:

Retail License Issuance and Transfer: General Prohibitions in Prince George's County

Generally, and with specified exceptions, the board may not issue a new license with an off-sale privilege in, or approve the transfer of a license with an off-sale privilege into, the 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, or 47th alcoholic beverages district in the county.

Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

M-NCPPC is a bi-county agency serving Montgomery and Prince George's counties that was empowered by the State in 1927 to acquire and administer a regional system of parks within the Maryland-Washington Metropolitan District and administer a general plan for the physical development of the area. In 1970, M-NCPPC became responsible for managing the Prince George's County public recreation program.

M-NCPPC operates approximately 52,000 acres of parkland, trails, and open space in Montgomery and Prince George's counties, as well as a variety of facilities, including nature centers, community centers, historic sites, and sports venues.

Background: The CDC [Guide for Measuring Alcohol Outlet Density](#) discusses approaches to and offers guidance for state and local agencies on measuring alcohol outlet density.

Local Fiscal Effect: Any expense reimbursements for workgroup members representing Prince George's County are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing county resources. M-NCPPC can absorb its workgroup staffing responsibilities under the bill within existing budgeted resources.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Comptroller's Office; Prince George's County; Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission; U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 14, 2019
mag/tso Third Reader - March 29, 2019
Revised - Amendment(s) - March 29, 2019
Enrolled - April 11, 2019
Revised - Amendment(s) - April 11, 2019

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