

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2019 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

Senate Bill 298

(Carroll County Senators)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

Carroll County - Alcoholic Beverages - Required Information on Application

This bill alters the “petition of support” requirement for alcoholic beverages license applications in Carroll County. The bill removes the requirement that the petition signers both know of the proposed business location and believe the business location is a suitable location for such a business. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2019.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

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

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Generally, an application for a local alcoholic beverages license in the State must include a “petition of support” signed by at least 10 property-owning residents who are registered voters of the precinct in which the business is to be conducted stating (1) the length of time each of the residents has been acquainted with the applicant; (2) that they have reviewed the application and believe the statements within the application are true and the applicant is suitable to obtain the license; and (3) that they are familiar with the location of the business and believe that the location is suitable for such a business.

Background: In fiscal 2018, there were 157 liquor licenses in Carroll County.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 7, 2019
sb/tso Third Reader - March 12, 2019

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