

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

Senate Bill 385

(Harford County Senators)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Economic Matters

Harford County - Alcoholic Beverages - Class MT (Movie Theater) License

This bill prohibits the Harford County Board of License Commissioners from issuing more than five Class MT (movie theater) beer, wine, and liquor licenses to the same person. The bill also increases, from \$500 to \$1,000, the annual license fee for Class MT licenses. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2020.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Potential increase in Harford County revenues due to an increase in the annual fee for the Class MT license.

Small Business Effect: Minimal overall, but potential meaningful for a movie theater that pays an increased annual fee for the Class MT license.

Analysis

Current Law: The board may issue a Class MT (movie theater) beer, wine, and liquor license for use by the owner of a movie theater. To be eligible for the license, the owner of a movie theater is required to provide documentation to the board that the owner has made an investment of at least \$250,000 in the movie theater. The license holder may only sell beer, wine, and liquor in single-serve containers for on-premises consumption in a specified area of the movie theater from 4:00 p.m. to midnight on the days that the movie theater is open. The annual license fee is \$500.

Background: Currently, only one movie theater in Harford County has been issued a Class MT license. Harford County advises that there is a movie theater under construction that should open by April 2020, which is also anticipated to receive a Class MT license.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: HB 923 (Harford County Delegation) - Economic Matters.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 11, 2020
f/tso Third Reader - March 13, 2020

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