

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 1187
Economic Matters

(Harford County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Harford County – Alcoholic Beverages – Bowling Alley License

This bill establishes a Class BA (Bowling Alley) beer, wine, and liquor license in Harford County. The Harford County Board of License Commissioners may issue the license for use by the owner of a bowling alley. The license authorizes the license holder to sell (1) beer and wine for on- and off-premises consumption and (2) liquor for on-premises consumption. The license is a seven-day license with an on-premises wine tasting privilege for every day of the year. The license holder may sell beer, wine, and liquor during the hours and days as set out for a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license in the county. The license holder may sell and allow customers to carry and consume beer, wine, and liquor within any place in the bowling alley. A bowling alley for which the license is issued is subject to alcohol awareness training requirements, as specified. The annual license fee is \$3,000. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2020.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Harford County revenues increase by a minimal amount from fees associated with the Class BA license. Expenditures are not affected.

Small Business Effect: Minimal overall, but potential meaningful for a small business that obtains a Class BA license.

Analysis

Current Law: In Harford County, a holder of a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license may sell beer, wine, and liquor on Monday through Sunday, from 8 a.m. to 2 a.m. the

following day. If a restaurant holding a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license is located within a freestanding establishment containing bowling lanes associated with the restaurant, the license holder may sell and allow customers to carry or consume alcoholic beverages within any place in the bowling alley or restaurant. This privilege is available between 6 p.m. and normal closing time for the license.

The annual license fee for a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license for a restaurant is \$1,720 for a six-day license and \$2,145 for a seven-day license.

Background: In fiscal 2019, there were 201 alcoholic beverages licenses issued in Harford County, including 89 Class B beer, wine, and liquor licenses.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: SB 381 (Harford County Senators) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 13, 2020
mr/tso Third Reader - March 6, 2020

Analysis by: Hillary J. Cleckler

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