

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 138

(Anne Arundel County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Anne Arundel County - Alcoholic Beverages - Off-Sale Licenses - Assessment
Districts

This bill clarifies that the Anne Arundel County Board of License Commissioners may consider, when issuing Class A, Class B, or Class D off-sale alcoholic beverages licenses, whether an establishment is located in an *assessment district* in which the ratio of Class A, Class B, or Class D off-sale licenses per individual is more or less than one license per 4,000 individuals. An assessment district is a tax assessment district established by the county through local law. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2020.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill does not materially affect Anne Arundel County operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: Generally, off-sale licenses authorize the license holder to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption off the licensed premises. Generally in the State, Class A licenses authorize the sale of alcoholic beverages as packaged goods, Class B licenses authorize the sale of alcoholic beverages for restaurants, and Class D licenses authorize the sale of alcoholic beverages for taverns.

Under Anne Arundel County Code § 4-2-102, the county is divided into eight assessment districts.

In fiscal 2019, there were 553 alcoholic beverages licenses issued in Anne Arundel County.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: SB 52 (Senator Simonaire, *et al.*) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 12, 2020
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