

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 1398
Economic Matters

(Delegate Arentz, *et al.*)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Queen Anne's County - Alcoholic Beverages - License Applications

This bill prohibits the Queen Anne’s County Board of License Commissioners from issuing a Class A beer, wine, and liquor (BWL) license to an individual on behalf of a corporation or limited liability company unless the corporation or limited liability company is a Maryland entity in good standing or a foreign entity registered to do business in the State. The bill repeals the requirement that applicants for an alcoholic beverages license for a corporation or limited liability company must be a resident of the State. Specified license application requirements do not apply to any alcoholic beverages license issued within the municipal limits of any incorporated town in Queen Anne’s County. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2020.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill is not anticipated to materially affect Queen Anne’s County operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: In Queen Anne’s County, an individual on behalf of a corporation or limited liability company may not be issued a Class A BWL license unless the owners of 75% of the total issued capital stock or interest in the corporation or limited liability company have been residents of the county for two years immediately before the application is filed.

Generally, any applicant applying for a license for a corporation or limited liability in Queen Anne's County must be a resident of the State. This requirement does not apply to an on-sale Class B BWL license for use in a conference center.

Background: In fiscal 2019, there were 91 alcoholic beverages licenses issued in Queen Anne's County.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: None.

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

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

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