

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2021 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 625

(Prince George's County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Prince George's County – Alcoholic Beverages – Alcohol Density Zones and
Licenses PG 307–21

This bill authorizes the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners to approve the transfer of a Class A beer, wine, and liquor license into a specified area only if the original licensed premises is located in an "alcohol density zone." **The bill takes effect July 1, 2021.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Prince George's County can monitor a license transfer with existing resources. Prince George's County revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary: "Alcohol density zone" means a census tract having an average of three or more licensed premises with a Class A beer, wine, and liquor license per square mile.

Current Law: In general, a local licensing board may not issue a Class A license for use in conjunction with or on the premises of a chain store, supermarket, or discount house. A Class A beer and light wine license authorizes a license holder to sell beer and light wine for on- and off-premises consumption. The annual license fee is \$500.

Generally, and with specified exceptions, the board may not issue a new license with an off-sale privilege in, or approve the transfer of a license with an off-sale privilege into, the 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, or 47th alcoholic beverages district in the county. The board may issue a license or approve the transfer of a license into these areas if the off-sale privilege of the license is waived.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 17, 2021
an/tso Third Reader - April 2, 2021
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Analysis by: Amberly Holcomb

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