

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2022 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 493
Economic Matters

(Harford County Delegation)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Harford County – Alcoholic Beverages – Service Under Stadium License

This emergency bill repeals the requirement that an individual may serve beer, wine, and liquor under a Harford County stadium beer, wine, and liquor license only in a plastic, Styrofoam, or paper container, as specified. The bill authorizes an individual to serve beer, wine, and liquor in a glass container in an area in the stadium designated by the license holder to hold a special event. The bill also exempts areas in the stadium designated by the license holder to hold a special event from the requirement that an individual may dispense wine and liquor during a baseball game only from a stationary structure that is equipped with a driver’s license scanner.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Harford County can handle the bill’s requirements with existing resources. Revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: In Harford County, there is a stadium beer, wine, and liquor license. The board may issue the license for a stadium to the owner, lessee, or concession manager of a professional baseball stadium. The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption. The license holder may sell, serve, or allow the consumption of beer, wine, and liquor on the stadium parking lots only with the prior written approval of the board. The license holder may sell beer, wine, and liquor during

specified times. An individual who serves beer, wine, and liquor on the licensed premises must hold a certificate from an alcohol awareness program that the board approves. An individual may only serve beer, wine, and liquor during a baseball game in a plastic, Styrofoam, or paper container, except on the club level or in a dining area where patrons are seated. An individual may serve beer, wine, and liquor in a glass container on the club level or in a dining area where patrons are seated. An individual may dispense wine and liquor during a baseball game only from a stationary structure that is in the stadium and equipped with a motor vehicle driver's license scanner, except on the club level or in a dining area where patrons are seated. A license holder may not allow a roving vendor to dispense wine and liquor. A license holder is prohibited from allowing a person to carry beer, wine, and liquor onto or off of the licensed premises.

Additional Comments: The board advises that currently there is one stadium beer, wine, and liquor license issued in Harford County.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: SB 481 (Senator Cassilly, *et al.*) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 14, 2022
km/tso Third Reader - March 21, 2022
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