

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 971
Finance

(Senator Guzzone)

Howard County - Class D Alcoholic Beverages Licenses - Delivery

This bill authorizes the holder of a Class D license or an employee of the license holder to deliver alcoholic beverages within Howard County in the same manner as the holder of a Class A license. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Howard County finances and operations are not materially affected.

Small Business Effect: Meaningful. Small businesses with a Class D license that are able to deliver alcoholic beverages under the bill are likely to experience increased sales and revenues.

Analysis

Current Law: Class D alcoholic beverages licenses generally authorize the sale of alcoholic beverages for consumption on- and off-premises consumption only.

Chapter 662 of 2021 authorized the holder of a Class A license or an employee of the license holder to deliver alcoholic beverages within Howard County. An employee making a delivery must be at least 18 years old. The deliverer and recipient must both sign a form indicating that (1) the recipient claimed to be 21 years old and presented documentation to that effect; (2) the recipient knows it is a criminal offense for alcoholic beverages to be given to an individual under 21 years old; and (3) the deliverer examined the recipient's identification. A delivery may not be made unless the purchaser or another individual at

least 21 years old designated by the purchaser is physically present to receive the beverages at place and time of delivery and pays for the purchase at the time of the order.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 20, 2024
km/tso

Analysis by: Michael E. Sousane

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