

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2015 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 339 (Senator Conway)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Alcoholic Beverages - Baltimore City - Belvedere Square

This bill repeals a prohibition, effective July 1, 2015, on the issuance of a new alcoholic beverages license within, or the transfer of an existing license into a specified geographic area in Baltimore City. Instead, the bill establishes a new prohibition, effective July 1, 2015, on the transfer of an existing Class A license in another specified area of Baltimore City. The bill also specifies permissible consumption in the Belvedere Square area of Baltimore City and requires certain quarterly reports by the owner of Belvedere Square.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2015.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Minimal. The bill is not expected to have a significant operational or fiscal impact on Baltimore City.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful impact on any small business that is able to obtain a new alcohol beverages license in specified areas of Baltimore City. Small businesses in the Belvedere Square area of Baltimore City also benefit from the bill's changes regarding permissible consumption.

Analysis

Bill Summary: Beginning July 1, 2015, an existing Class A (off-sale) license may not be transferred to an establishment on York Road in the area bounded by Northern Parkway on the north and Greenmount Avenue on the south. Within the planned unit development for

Belvedere Square alcoholic beverages purchased from any licensed establishment on the south side of East Belvedere Avenue may be consumed (1) within any indoor or outdoor seating area on the south side of East Belvedere Avenue and (2) while crossing from the south side of East Belvedere Avenue to the north side of East Belvedere Avenue during a permitted special event that results in the closure of East Belvedere Avenue.

The owner or the owner's designee of Belvedere Square must report quarterly, beginning September 1, 2015, to the York Road Partnership and the Belvedere Improvement Association on the status of development at Belvedere Square until development is complete.

Current Law: Beginning July 1, 2015, a new alcoholic beverages license may not be issued within and an existing license may not be transferred into the area bounded by Northern Parkway on the north, Bellona Avenue on the west, Orkney Road on the south, and Evesham Avenue on the east.

Background: Belvedere Square is a retail shopping and restaurant area in North Baltimore City, located at the southeast corner of York Road and Northern Parkway.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 25, 2015
md/lgc

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