

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 823

(Montgomery County Delegation)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Montgomery County - Alcoholic Beverages - Performing Arts Facility
MC 806-08

This bill reduces, from 2,000 to 1,500 persons, the minimum capacity requirement a facility must meet in Montgomery County before a Class B-BWL (performing arts facility) alcoholic beverages license may be issued.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2008.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Montgomery County revenues would increase by \$1,000 beginning in FY 2009 for each new license issued. County expenditures would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful for any businesses that are able to obtain a license under the bill's new provisions.

Analysis

Current Law: The Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners may issue a special Class B-BWL (performing arts facility) license to a facility used for artistic, corporate, and community-related activities that has (1) a minimum capital investment, not including real property, of \$1 million; (2) a minimum capacity of 2,000 persons; and (3) a food service facility permit and 40 seats in a food service area. The annual license fee for a Class B-BWL (performing arts facility) license is \$1,000.

Background: The Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners advises there is currently only one holder of a Class B-BWL (performing arts facility) license.

The current license was designed to accommodate the Strathmore Performing Arts Center. There is interest in developing one or two other performing arts facilities in downtown Silver Spring as part of its redevelopment program. The smaller seating capacity allowed under this bill would fit the planned facilities.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Montgomery County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 14, 2008
ncs/hlb Revised - House Third Reader - March 26, 2008

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