

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 855
Finance

(Senator Sydnor)

**Baltimore County - Alcoholic Beverages - Manufacturer's Limited Beer, Wine,
and Liquor Permit**

This bill establishes a manufacturer's limited beer, wine, and liquor permit in Baltimore County and authorizes the Baltimore County Board of License Commissioners to issue the permit to a holder of a Class 5 brewery license with a local on-site consumption permit. The permit authorizes the holder to allow a licensed caterer or other contracted party to provide sealed beer, wine, and liquor products not manufactured by the permit holder during private events for on-premises consumption at the licensed premises. The permit holder may not be an affiliate of the licensed caterer or other contracted party. The permit holder may not allow patrons who are visiting any part of the manufacturer's licensed premises that is open to the public to enter the private event area while the private event is being held. The permit holder must request approval from the board before each event. The board must adopt regulations including criteria for approving events and setting the annual fee. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill is not expected to materially affect State finances or operations.

Local Effect: Baltimore County revenues may increase minimally beginning in FY 2027 from the issuance of manufacturer's limited beer, wine, and liquor permits, as discussed below. Baltimore County can likely handle any additional enforcement using existing budgeted resources.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: The holder of a Class 5 brewery license may (1) establish and operate a plant for brewing and bottling malt beverages at the location described in the license; (2) import beer from a holder of a nonresident dealer's permit; (3) contract to brew and bottle beer with and on behalf of certain other license holders; (4) sell and deliver beer to a holder of a beer wholesaler's license or a person outside the State that is authorized to acquire beer. The annual license fee is \$1,500.

A local licensing board may issue an on-premises consumption permit to an applicant that holds a Class 5 brewery license. A local licensing board that does not issue a Class 5 brewery license must establish an equivalent license and require the applicant to obtain that license before issuing a permit for on-premises consumption.

Local Fiscal Effect: Baltimore County advises there are currently five license holders that might seek manufacturer's limited beer, wine, and liquor permits under the bill; however, the board has not yet determined the annual fee for the permit. Therefore, Baltimore County revenues increase, beginning in fiscal 2027, to the extent license holders are issued permits under the bill at the annual fee established by the board.

Additional Information

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

Designated Cross File: HB 1183 (Delegate McCaskill) - Government, Labor, and Elections.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 18, 2026
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Analysis by: Beatrice F. Amoateng

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