

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2019 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 297 (Montgomery County Delegation)
Economic Matters

Montgomery County - Alcoholic Beverages - Sale of Chilled Beer and Chilled Wine
MC 4-19

This bill authorizes Montgomery County Department of Liquor Control (DLC) dispensaries to sell chilled beer and chilled wine, dispensed from a keg, for off-premises consumption. Chilled beer may only be dispensed for the purpose of filling a refillable or nonrefillable container. Chilled wine may only be dispensed for the purpose of filling a refillable container. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2019.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill is not anticipated to materially affect Montgomery County finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: DLC dispensaries are authorized to sell, for off-premises consumption, only *nonchilled* beer, wine, and liquor; ice; bottled water; and items commonly associated with the serving or consumption of alcoholic beverages. Chapter 125 of 2018 authorized dispensaries to sell beer in refillable and nonrefillable containers and wine in refillable containers.

Background: As of November 2018, there were 25 dispensaries managed by the DLC. In fiscal 2018, there were 151 Class A off-sale beer and wine licenses issued in Montgomery County.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Montgomery County; Comptroller's Office; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 4, 2019
sb/tso

Analysis by: Thomas S. Elder

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