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H.52

Introduced by Representatives Obuchowski of Rockingham, Mrowicki of
Putney and Partridge of Windham

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Alcoholic beverages; spirits; third class license; manufacturers;
on-premises tastings

Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to permit tasting of spirits on the
premises of Vermont liquor distilleries.

An act relating to liquor tastings on the premises of Vermont distilleries

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 7 V.S.A. § 2(15) is amended to read:

(15) "Manufacturer's or rectifier's license": a license granted by the
liquor control board that permits the holder to manufacture or rectify, as the
case may be, malt beverages and vinous beverages for export and for sale to
bottlers or wholesale dealers, or spirituous liquors for export and for sale to the
liquor control board, upon application of a manufacturer or rectifier and the
payment to the liquor control board of the license fee as required by
subdivision 231(1) of this title for either license. The liquor control board may
grant to a licensed manufacturer or rectifier a first class restaurant or cabaret

1 license or first and third class restaurant or cabaret license permitting the
2 licensee to sell alcoholic beverages to the public only at the manufacturer's
3 premises. A manufacturer of malt beverages who also holds a first class
4 restaurant or cabaret license may serve to customer malt beverages by the
5 glass, not to exceed eight glasses at one time and not to exceed four ounces in
6 each glass. The liquor control board may grant to a licensed manufacturer or a
7 rectifier of malt beverages a second class license permitting the licensee to sell
8 alcoholic beverages to the public only at the manufacturer's or rectifier's
9 premises. Upon application and payment of the license fee as required by
10 subdivision 231(11) of this title, the liquor control board may grant to a
11 licensed manufacturer or rectifier of vinous beverages fourth class or farmers'
12 market licenses permitting the licensee to sell these beverages by the bottle to
13 the public at the licensed premises or at a farmers' market, provided that the
14 beverages were produced by the manufacturer or rectifier. No more than a
15 combined total of ten fourth class and farmers' market licenses may be granted
16 to any licensed manufacturer or rectifier. An application for a farmers' market
17 license shall include copies of the farmers' market regulations, the agreement
18 between the farmers' market and the applicant, and the location and dates of
19 operation of the farmers' market. A farmers' market license shall be valid for
20 all dates of operation for a specific farmers' market location. However, in no
21 case may a person with an interest in more than one manufacturer's or

1 rectifier's license have an interest in more than four fourth class licenses. The
2 manufacturer or rectifier shall pay directly to the commissioner of taxes the
3 sum of \$0.265 cents per gallon for every gallon of malt beverage and the sum
4 of \$0.55 cents per gallon for each gallon of vinous beverage manufactured by
5 the manufacturer or rectifier and provided for sale pursuant to ~~the~~ a first class
6 license ~~or the,~~ a second class license ~~or the,~~ a fourth class license, or any
7 combination ~~thereof~~ of those licenses held by the manufacturer or rectifier.
8 ~~Holder~~ A holder of a manufacturer's or rectifier's second class license for malt
9 beverages and a holder of a manufacturer's or rectifier's third class license for
10 spirits may distribute, with or without charge, malt beverages, or spirits, as the
11 case may be, by the glass, not to exceed two ounces per product and eight
12 ounces in total, to all persons of legal drinking age. The malt beverages must
13 be consumed upon the premises of the holder of the license. At the request of
14 a person holding a first class or second class license, a holder of a
15 manufacturer's or rectifier's license for malt beverages may distribute without
16 charge to the management and staff of the license holder, provided they are of
17 legal drinking age, no more than four ounces per person of a malt beverage for
18 the purpose of promoting the beverage. Written notice shall be provided to the
19 department of liquor control at least 10 days prior to the date of the tasting.
20 The liquor control board may grant to a manufacturer or rectifier of spirits a
21 third class license that permits the licensee to sell alcoholic beverages to the

1 public only at the manufacturer's or rectifier's premises. A holder of a
2 manufacturer's or rectifier's third class license for spirits may distribute, with
3 or without charge, spirits by the glass not to exceed one-half ounce per product
4 with no more than a total of one ounce to each individual of legal drinking age.