

1 H.681

2 Introduced by Representatives Scheuermann of Stowe, Birong of Vergennes,
3 and Wood of Waterbury

4 Referred to Committee on

5 Date:

6 Subject: Alcoholic beverages; definitions; cider

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to define “cider”
8 as a vinous beverage made a majority from the fermented sugars of apples or
9 pears, amend various provisions of Title 7 to increase the amount of cider that
10 may be served as part of a sampler flight or as a sample serving at festivals,
11 and decrease the gallonage tax on ciders containing less than seven percent
12 alcohol by volume.

13 An act relating to the definition of “cider”

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

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

16 § 2. DEFINITIONS

17 As used in this title:

18 * * *

19 (43) “Cider” means a vinous beverage, made a majority from the
20 fermented natural sugar content of apples or pears, that contains an alcoholic

1 content of not less than one percent or more than 16 percent by volume at 60
2 degrees Fahrenheit. "Cider" includes sweetened, flavored, and carbonated
3 cider.

4 Sec. 2. 7 V.S.A. § 228 is amended to read:

5 § 228. SAMPLER FLIGHTS

6 (a) The holder of a first-class license may serve a sampler flight of up to
7 32 ounces in the aggregate of malt beverages or ciders to a single customer at
8 one time.

9 * * *

10 Sec. 3. 7 V.S.A. § 253 is amended to read:

11 § 253. FESTIVAL PERMITS

12 * * *

13 (d) The permit holder shall ensure the following:

14 * * *

15 (2)(A) Malt beverages and ciders for sampling shall be offered in
16 glasses that contain not more than 12 ounces, with not more than 60 ounces
17 served to any patron at one event.

18 * * *

1 Sec. 4. 7 V.S.A. § 421 is amended to read:

2 § 421. TAX ON MALT AND VINOUS BEVERAGES

3 (a) Every packager and wholesale dealer shall pay to the Commissioner of
4 Taxes:

5 (1) the sum of 26 and one-half cents per gallon for every gallon or its
6 equivalent of:

7 (A) malt beverages containing not more than six percent of alcohol
8 by volume at 60 degrees Fahrenheit sold by them to retailers in the State; and

9 (B) ciders containing not more than seven percent of alcohol by
10 volume at 60 degrees Fahrenheit sold by them to retailers in the State; and

11 (2) the sum of 55 cents per gallon for each gallon of:

12 (A) malt beverages containing more than six percent of alcohol by
13 volume at 60 degrees Fahrenheit;

14 (B) ciders containing more than seven percent of alcohol by volume
15 at 60 degrees Fahrenheit sold by them to retailers in the State; and each gallon

16 of

17 (C) vinous beverages sold by them to retailers in the State.

18 (3) A manufacturer or rectifier of malt or vinous beverages shall pay the
19 taxes required by this subsection to the Commissioner of Taxes for all malt and
20 vinous beverages manufactured or rectified by them and sold at retail.

21 * * *

1 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

2 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.