

1 H.687

2 Introduced by Representative Birong of Vergennes

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Alcoholic beverages; general provisions; definitions; vinous  
6 beverages and vermouths

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to amend the  
8 definition of vinous beverages to include fortified wines containing less than  
9 16 percent alcohol by volume and to eliminate the default inclusion of  
10 vermouths in the definition of “fortified wines” for purposes of Title 7.

11 An act relating to including lower alcohol fortified wines in the definition of  
12 “vinous beverages”

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

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

15 § 2. DEFINITIONS

16 As used in this title:

17 \* \* \*

18 (18) “Fortified wines” means vinous beverages, including those to  
19 which spirits have been added during manufacture, containing at least 16  
20 percent alcohol but not more than 23 percent alcohol by volume at 60 degrees

1 Fahrenheit, ~~and all vermouths containing not more than 23 percent alcohol by~~  
2 ~~volume at 60 degrees Fahrenheit.~~

3 \* \* \*

4 (41) “Vinous beverages” means all fermented beverages of any name or  
5 description manufactured or obtained for sale from the natural sugar content of  
6 fruits or other agricultural product, containing sugar, the alcoholic content of  
7 which is not less than one percent nor more than 16 percent by volume at 60  
8 degrees Fahrenheit, and fortified wines containing less than 16 percent alcohol  
9 by volume at 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

10 \* \* \*

11 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

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