

1 Introduced by Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs

2 Date:

3 Subject: Alcoholic beverages; lottery; miscellaneous amendments

4 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to authorize
5 retail establishments to acquire special venue serving permits; allow a
6 sampling event permit holder to purchase invoiced volumes of alcoholic
7 beverages from wholesale dealers; increase the limit on special event permits
8 that may be acquired by an individual licensee from 10 to 20; amend
9 provisions related to the annual report concerning the State Lottery; extend the
10 effective date for required liquor liability insurance to July 1, 2026; and to
11 establish a retail master license for parent corporations that are formed for
12 purposes of merging licensed retail dealers or manufacturers.

13 An act relating to miscellaneous amendments to the laws governing
14 alcoholic beverages and the Board of Liquor and Lottery

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

16 * * * Special Venue Serving Permit; Retail Establishments * * *

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

18 § 2. DEFINITIONS

19 As used in this title:

20 * * *

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21

(e) An art gallery, retail establishment, public library, or museum may be issued not more than 12 special venue serving permits in a calendar year.

*** * * 2026 Sunset of Special Venue Serving Permits for Retail Establishments**

*** * ***

Sec. 3. 7 V.S.A. § 254 is amended to read:

§ 254. SPECIAL VENUE SERVING PERMITS

(a) The Division of Liquor Control may grant an art gallery, ~~retail establishment,~~ public library, or museum a special venue serving permit if the applicant has:

*** * ***

(e) An art gallery, ~~retail establishment,~~ public library, or museum may be issued not more than 12 special venue serving permits in a calendar year.

*** * * Sampling Event Permits * * ***

Sec. 4. 7 V.S.A. § 253 is amended to read:

§ 253. SAMPLING EVENT PERMITS

*** * ***

(e)(1) A sampling event permit holder may purchase invoiced volumes of malt beverages, vinous beverages, or ready-to-drink spirits beverages directly from a manufacturer, wholesale dealer, or packager licensed in Vermont or a manufacturer, wholesale dealer, or packager that holds a federal Basic Permit

1 or Brewers Notice or evidence of licensure in a foreign country that is
2 satisfactory to the Board.

3 * * *

4 * * * Special Event Permits * * *

5 Sec. 5. 7 V.S.A. § 252 is amended to read:

6 § 252. SPECIAL EVENT PERMITS

7 * * *

8 (c) A licensed manufacturer or rectifier may be issued not more than ~~10~~ 20
9 special event permits for the same physical location in a calendar year.

10 * * * Liquor and Lottery Annual Report * * *

11 Sec. 6. 31 V.S.A. § 657 is amended to read:

12 § 657. REPORT OF THE ~~BOARD~~ DEPARTMENT

13 The ~~Board~~ Department of Liquor and Lottery shall make an annual report to
14 the Governor and to the General Assembly on or before the 10th day of
15 ~~January~~ March in each year. The report shall include an account of the
16 Board's actions and the receipts derived under the provisions of this chapter,
17 the practical effects of the application of the proceeds of the Lottery, and any
18 recommendation for legislation that the Board deems advisable.

19 * * * Extension of Liquor Liability Insurance Requirement * * *

20 Sec. 7. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 17, Sec. 4 is amended to read:

21 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATES

1 (a) This section and Secs. 1 and 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

2 (b) Sec. 2 shall take effect on July 1, ~~2024~~ 2026.

3 * * * Merger of Licensed Entities; License * * *

4 Sec. 8. 7 V.S.A. § 204 is amended to read:

5 § 204. APPLICATION AND RENEWAL FEES FOR LICENSES AND
6 PERMITS; DISPOSITION OF FEES

7 (a) The following fees shall be paid when applying for a new license or
8 permit or to renew a license or permit:

9 * * *

10 (25) For a retail master license, \$1,000.00.

11 * * *

12 Sec. 9. 7 V.S.A. § 231 is added to read:

13 § 231. RETAIL MASTER LICENSE

14 The Division of Liquor Control may grant a retail master license to a person
15 that acts as the parent corporation for licensed retail dealers or manufacturers
16 that have merged. The holder of a retail master license may provide unified
17 payroll and administrative services for the licensed retail dealers or
18 manufacturers. The Division may apply to the holder of a retail master license
19 any duties or liability for licensee conduct that belongs to the subsidiary
20 licensees. The Board of Liquor and Lottery may adopt rules to ensure that the

1 holder of a master retail license and the licensed retail dealers or manufacturers
2 continue to comply with the provisions of this title.

3 * * * Effective Dates * * *

4 **Sec. 10. EFFECTIVE DATES**

5 (a) This section and Sec. 4 shall take effect on passage.

6 (b) Sec. 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

7 (c) All other sections shall take effect on July 1, 2024.