

1 Introduced by Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs

2 Date:

3 Subject: Alcoholic beverages, cannabis, and tobacco

4 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to amend
5 various provisions of Title 7 related to the Board of Liquor and Lottery, fourth-
6 class licenses, manufacturers of alcoholic beverages, special events permits,
7 and special venue serving permits.

8 An act relating to alcoholic beverages

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

10 *** Term Length for Members of Board of Liquor and Lottery ***

11 Sec. 1. 7 V.S.A. § 101 is amended to read:

12 § 101. COMPOSITION OF DEPARTMENT; COMMISSIONER OF

13 LIQUOR AND LOTTERY; BOARD OF LIQUOR AND LOTTERY

14 * * *

15 (b)(1) The Board of Liquor and Lottery shall consist of five persons. Not
16 all members of the Board shall belong to the same political party.

17 (2)(A) With the advice and consent of the Senate, the Governor shall
18 appoint the members of the Board for staggered ~~three-year~~ four-year terms.

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(c)(1) ~~At only one~~ not more than 10 fourth-class license ~~location~~ locations,
a licensed manufacturer or rectifier may sell by the unopened container or
distribute by the glass, with or without charge, ~~alcoholic beverages~~;
(A) malt beverages, vinous beverages, or ready-to-drink spirits
beverages produced by ~~no~~ other licensed manufacturers; and
(B) spirits or fortified wines produced by not more than five
additional licensed manufacturers or rectifiers, provided these beverages are
purchased on invoice from the manufacturer or rectifier.

(2) A manufacturer or rectifier may sell its product to ~~no more than five~~
additional any licensed manufacturers or rectifiers.

* * *

* * * Removal of Permit-Specific Hours of Sale * * *

Sec. 3. 7 V.S.A. § 230 is amended to read:

§ 230. SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR OFF-PREMISES
CONSUMPTION

* * *

(c) ~~A licensee may sell alcoholic beverages pursuant to this section~~
~~between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. [Repealed.]~~

* * *

1 *** Conforming Revision; Local Control Requirements in 7 V.S.A. § 252 ***

2 *

3 Sec. 4. 7 V.S.A. § 252 is amended to read:

4 § 252. SPECIAL EVENT PERMITS

5 (a)(1) The Division of Liquor Control may issue a special event permit for
6 an event open to the public that has been approved by the local control
7 commissioners if the application is submitted to the Division of Liquor Control
8 with the fee provided in section 204 of this title at least five days prior to the
9 date of the event.

10 * * *

11 *** Notice Period for Retail Tasting Permits ***

12 Sec. 5. 7 V.S.A. § 255 is amended to read:

13 § 255. RETAIL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE TASTING PERMITS

14 (a) The Division of Liquor Control may grant a licensee a permit to
15 conduct an alcoholic beverage tasting event as provided in subsection (b) of
16 this section if:

17 (1) the licensee has submitted a written application in a form required by
18 the Commissioner and paid the fee provided in section 204 of this title at least
19 ~~five days~~ one day prior to the date of the alcoholic beverage tasting event; and

20 * * *

21 *** Distribution by Malt Beverage Manufacturers; 2028 Sunset ***

1 Sec. 6. 7 V.S.A. § 271 is amended to read:

2 § 271. MANUFACTURER’S OR RECTIFIER’S LICENSE

3 * * *

4 (d)(1) The Board of Liquor and Lottery may grant to a licensed
5 manufacturer or rectifier a first-class license or a third-class license, or both,
6 permitting the licensee to sell alcoholic beverages to the public at an
7 establishment located at the manufacturer’s or rectifier’s licensed facility,
8 provided the manufacturer or rectifier owns or has direct control over that
9 establishment.

10 (2) A licensed manufacturer of malt beverages or vinous beverages may
11 operate up to two licensed establishments pursuant to this subsection that are
12 located at the licensed manufacturing facility or on property that is owned by
13 the licensee and is contiguous with the parcel of land on which the licensed
14 manufacturing facility is located, provided the manufacturer owns or has direct
15 control over both establishments.

16 * * *

17 (g) A licensed manufacturer of malt beverages may distribute an annual
18 total of not more than 3,000 barrels of the manufacturer’s malt beverages
19 directly to holders of first- or second-class licenses.

20 Sec. 7. 7 V.S.A. § 271 is amended to read:

21 § 271. MANUFACTURER’S OR RECTIFIER’S LICENSE

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~~(g) A licensed manufacturer of malt beverages may distribute an annual total of not more than 3,000 barrels of the manufacturer's malt beverages directly to holders of first or second class licenses. [Repealed.]~~

* * * Removing Certified Check Requirement * * *

Sec. 8. 7 V.S.A. § 275 is amended to read:

§ 275. SOLICITOR'S LICENSE

(a) The Board of Liquor and Lottery may grant an individual a solicitor's license if ~~he or she~~ the individual does all of the following:

* * *

(3) Pays the fee provided in section 204 of this title to the Division of Liquor Control ~~by certified check made payable to the State of Vermont.~~ The ~~certified check~~ payment shall be returned to the applicant if the Board does not grant ~~him or her~~ the individual a license under this section.

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

Sec. 9. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 156, Secs. 3 and 4 are amended to read:

* * * 2026 Sunset of Special Venue Serving Permits

for Retail Establishments * * *

1 ~~in 22 V.S.A. § 101; and “museum” has the same meaning as in 27 V.S.A.~~
2 ~~§ 1151. As used in this section, “retail establishment” does not include a~~
3 ~~Vermont agency liquor store or a cannabis establishment as that term is~~
4 ~~defined in section 861 of this title.~~

5 * * *

6 [Deleted.]

7 Sec. 10. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 156, Sec. 11 is amended to read:

8 Sec. 11. EFFECTIVE DATES

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

10 (b) ~~Secs. 3 and 4 shall take effect on July 1, 2026.~~ [Deleted.]

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

12 * * * Effective Dates * * *

13 Sec. 11. EFFECTIVE DATES

14 (a) This section and Secs. 9 and 10 (deleting 2026 sunset of special venue
15 selling permits for retail establishments) shall take effect on passage.

16 (b) Sec. 7 shall take effect on July 1, 2028.

17 (c) All other sections shall take effect on July 1, 2026.