



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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## Bill Analysis

Jeff Grim

### **Am. H.B. 243**

129th General Assembly  
(As Passed by the House)

**Reps.** Kozlowski and Young, Huffman, Beck, Thompson, Ramos, Maag, Hall, Mecklenborg, Dovilla, Fedor, Letson, R. Adams, Anielski, Antonio, Balderson, Barnes, Blessing, Bubb, Buchy, Carney, Damschroder, Driehaus, Duffey, Foley, Garland, Goyal, Grossman, R. Hagan, Lundy, Mallory, McClain, Milkovich, Murray, Peterson, Rosenberger, Ruhl, Slaby, Uecker, Wachtmann, Yuko

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## **BILL SUMMARY**

- Eliminates the restriction on the number of A-3a liquor permits that may be issued per county.
- Eliminates the restriction on the issuance of A-3a liquor permits in counties with a population of 800,000 or less.
- Specifies that new A-3a liquor permits issued after the bill's effective date are subject to local option election.
- Authorizes an A-3a permit holder to offer not more than four servings of not more than a quarter ounce of spirituous liquor as tasting samples in accordance with rules adopted by the Division of Liquor Control.

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## **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

### **A-3a liquor permit**

Under current law, an A-3a liquor permit is issued to a distiller that manufactures less than 10,000 gallons of spirituous liquor per year. An A-3a permit holder may sell spirituous liquor that the permit holder manufactures to a personal consumer, in sealed containers for consumption off the premises where manufactured.

However, sales to the personal consumer may occur only by an in-person transaction at the permit premises.<sup>1</sup>

The bill eliminates a restriction against the issuance of more than one A-3a liquor permit in a county. Furthermore, the bill eliminates a restriction against the issuance of an A-3a liquor permit in a county with a population of 800,000 or less. It also generally prohibits any new A-3a liquor permits from being issued unless a local option election held pursuant to current law has permitted the sale of beer and intoxicating liquor in the precinct in which the A-3a permit is proposed to be located. However, this prohibition does not prohibit the issuance of an A-3a permit to an applicant for such a permit who has filed an application with the Division of Liquor Control before the bill's effective date.<sup>2</sup>

The bill also authorizes an A-3a permit holder to offer not more than four servings of not more than a quarter ounce of spirituous liquor as tasting samples. The tasting samples, which A-3a permit holders are not authorized to offer under current law, must be offered in accordance with rules adopted by the Division.<sup>3</sup>

Generally, under current law, beer includes all beverages brewed or fermented wholly or in part from malt products and containing .5% or more, but not more than 12%, of alcohol by volume. Intoxicating liquor includes all liquids and compounds, other than beer, containing .5% or more of alcohol by volume.<sup>4</sup>

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## HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	06-01-11
Reported, H. State Gov't & Elections	06-22-11
Passed House (96-0)	06-23-11

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 4303.041(A).

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 4303.041(B).

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 4303.041(C)(1).

<sup>4</sup> R.C. 4301.01, not in the bill.

