



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Jeff Grim

Am. H.B. 243*

129th General Assembly

(As Reported by H. State Government and Elections)

Reps. Kozlowski and Young, Huffman, Beck, Thompson, Ramos, Maag, Hall

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.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

A-3a liquor permit

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

* This analysis was prepared before the report of the House State Government and Elections Committee appeared in the House Journal. Note that the list of co-sponsors and the legislative history may be incomplete.

permit who has filed an application with the Division of Liquor Control before the bill's effective date.¹

The bill 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.²

Currently, 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.³

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.⁴

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	06-01-11
Reported, H. State Gov't & Elections	---

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¹ R.C. 4303.041(B).

² R.C. 4303.041(C)(1).

³ R.C. 4303.041(A).

⁴ R.C. 4301.01, not in the bill.

