

Liquor Control

Sub. H.B. 37

Reps. Stinziano and Duffey, Blessing, Antani, Boyd, Driehaus, Gerberry, Henne, Leland, Lepore-Hagan, Manning, M. O'Brien, Perales, Ramos, Retherford, Rogers, Sweeney, Young

Sens. Uecker, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Hackett, Hite, Jones, Patton, Seitz, Tavares, Thomas, Yuko

Effective date: August 31, 2016

Alcohol content of beer

- Eliminates the maximum permitted alcohol content of beer, which was 12% alcohol by volume (ABV).
- States that beer, regardless of the percent of ABV, is not intoxicating liquor for purposes of Ohio law.
- Establishes labeling requirements for beer containing more than 12% ABV.

Open container exemptions

- Exempts the following from the law that prohibits a person from consuming an opened container of alcohol in a public place:
 - Alcohol consumed on the premises of a market that meets certain conditions, including hosting a farmer's market, and that is purchased from a D permit holder located in the market; and
 - Alcohol consumed on the premises of a market that has been in operation since 1860, when the market is hosting an event pursuant to an F-8 liquor permit (public event permit) and the alcohol is purchased from a D permit holder located adjacent to the market.

Sub. H.B. 178

Reps. Manning, Sweeney, LaTourette, Brenner, Thompson, Becker, Young, Blessing, Henne, Duffey, Cera, Roegner, Boyd, Maag, Buchy, Anielski, Antonio, Arndt, Baker, Brown, Celebrezze, Dovilla, Fedor, Grossman, Hackett, Hambley, Howse, Huffman, Lepore-Hagan, M. O'Brien, S. O'Brien, Patterson, Perales, Phillips, Ramos, Retherford, Rogers, Ruhl, Ryan, Schuring, Sears, Sheehy, Strahorn

Sens. Uecker, Balderson, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Hite, Hottinger, Hughes, Jones, Jordan, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Patton, Peterson, Schiavoni, Seitz, Tavares, Thomas, Yuko

Effective date: September 14, 2016

- Establishes the F-10 liquor permit to authorize a person who organizes a farmers market to allow A-2 liquor permit holders (Ohio-based wine manufacturers) or S liquor permit holders (wine manufacturers that ship wine directly to Ohio consumers) to sell the following at the farmers market:
 - Tasting samples of wine manufactured by the A-2 or S permit holder for consumption on the premises of the farmers market; and
 - Sealed containers of wine manufactured by the A-2 or S permit holder for consumption off the premises.
- Limits the eligibility of A-2 permit holders to make these sales at farmers markets to those that produce less than 250,000 gallons of wine per year.
- Prohibits an A-2 or S permit holder from engaging in certain activities at a farmers market under an F-10 permit, including selling a variety of wine that is offered for distribution by a wholesale distributor in any state and selling more than 4½ liters of wine per household for off-premises consumption.
- Exempts a person who sells wine at a farmers market under an F-10 permit from the requirement to be licensed as a retail food establishment.
- Exempts from the Open Container Law a person with an opened container of wine served as a tasting sample for on-premises consumption at a farmers market with an F-10 permit.

Sub. H.B. 342

Reps. Young, Becker, Grossman, Hackett, Schaffer, Vitale, Brown, Blessing, Anielski, Antonio, Arndt, Baker, Boose, Brenner, Buchy, Celebrezze, Cera, Clyde, Dovilla, Fedor, Hambley, Hill, Lepore-Hagan, Manning, S. O'Brien, Patterson, Phillips, Ramos, Retherford, Rogers, Romanchuk, Sears, Sheehy, Sprague, Strahorn, Thompson

Sens. Uecker, Balderson, Beagle, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Hite, Hughes, Jordan, Obhof, Schiavoni, Seitz, Tavares, Thomas, Yuko

Effective date: September 28, 2016

Ohio Farm Winery Permit

- Creates the A-2f liquor permit, the "Ohio Farm Winery Permit," and authorizes the Division of Liquor Control to issue the permit to a wine manufacturer that:
 - Grows grapes, fruit, or other agricultural products on property owned by the manufacturer that is classified as land devoted exclusively to agricultural use; and
 - Uses the grapes, fruit, or products to produce wine.

- Authorizes the holder of an A-2f permit to sell wine directly to a consumer on the premises where the wine is manufactured, but otherwise prohibits the holder from selling wine directly to a consumer or to a retailer unless the holder obtains additional specified liquor permits.
- Prescribes the fee for the A-2f permit at \$76 for each plant to which the permit is issued.

Wine manufacturer permit

- Allows an A-2 permit holder (wine manufacturer) to use agricultural products (for example, honey), in addition to grapes and other fruit, to manufacture wine.

D-5l liquor permit population requirements

- Authorizes the Division to issue a D-5l liquor permit (sales of beer and intoxicating liquor for on- and off-premises consumption) to a premises that is located in a municipal corporation that is wholly within the geographic boundaries of a township, provided that a specified population density applies.

Am. H.B. 351

Reps. Perales and DeVitis, Henne, Hackett, Butler, Ramos, Cera, Becker, Brenner, Dever, Stinziano, Ruhl, Blessing, Young, K. Smith, Brown, Buchy, McColley, Anielski, Antonio, Arndt, Baker, Boggs, Burkley, Celebrezze, Clyde, Driehaus, Duffey, Grossman, Huffman, Koehler, Kunze, Lepore-Hagan, Maag, Manning, M. O'Brien, Patterson, Retherford, Rogers, Scherer, Schuring, Sheehy, Sweeney, Thompson

Sens. Uecker, Beagle, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Hite, Hughes, Jordan, Patton, Seitz, Tavares, Thomas, Williams, Yuko

Effective date: September 28, 2016

- Increases, from 10,000 to 100,000 gallons, the volume of spirituous liquor (intoxicating liquor of more than 21% alcohol by volume) that an A-3a liquor permit holder (craft distillery) may manufacture annually.
- Authorizes an A-3a permit holder to obtain an A-1-A liquor permit, thus allowing the A-3a permit holder to sell beer, wine, mixed beverages, and spirituous liquor by the individual glass or container at specified locations at or near the A-3a permit premises.

Am. Sub. H.B. 444

Reps. Blessing, Henne, Grossman, Hambley, Brenner, Conditt, Becker, Ramos, Thompson, Perales, Manning, Buchy, Boose, Dever, Rezabek, Sheehy, Brown, Ashford, Boyd, Dovilla, Driehaus, Duffey, Lepore-Hagan, M. O'Brien, Patterson, Phillips, Rogers, Scherer, Schuring, Slesnick, Sweeney

Sens. Hackett, Uecker, Beagle, Hite, Balderson, Coley, Eklund, Oelslager, Seitz, Tavares, Thomas, Williams

Effective date: April 6, 2017

- Allows A-1c, certain A-1-A, and certain D liquor permit holders to provide, in any 24-hour period, up to four free tasting samples of beer, wine, and spirituous liquor to a person age 21 or older who is a paying customer of the permit holder.