



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 617**

January Session, 2025

Substitute House Bill No. 6854

*House of Representatives, April 9, 2025*

The Committee on General Law reported through REP. LEMAR of the 96th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR REGULATION.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 30-14 of the general  
2 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
3 (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

4 (a) Each permit shall be a purely personal privilege that is revocable  
5 in the discretion of the Department of Consumer Protection, and subject  
6 to appeal, as provided in section 30-55. Except as otherwise provided in  
7 the general statutes, including, but not limited to, subdivision (2) of  
8 subsection (a) of section 30-19f, as amended by this act, and sections 30-  
9 35, 30-37g and 30-37u, as amended by this act, each permit shall expire  
10 annually. No permit shall constitute property, be subject to attachment  
11 and execution or be alienable, except a permit shall descend to the estate  
12 of a deceased permittee by the laws of testate or intestate succession. An  
13 airline permit issued under section 30-28a or a cafe permit issued under

14 subsection (h) of section 30-22a shall be granted to the airline  
15 corporation or railway corporation and not to any person, and the  
16 corporation shall be the permittee.

17 (b) Any permit in this part, except a permit issued under subdivision  
18 (2) of subsection (a) of section 30-19f, as amended by this act, and  
19 sections 30-35, 30-37g and 30-37u, as amended by this act, may be issued  
20 for a continuous period of not more than six consecutive calendar  
21 months, at two-thirds of regular fees, but rebate of fees shall not be  
22 permitted for any unexpired portion of the term of a permit revoked by  
23 reason of a violation of any provision of this chapter.

24 Sec. 2. Subsections (c) and (d) of section 30-16 of the general statutes  
25 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
26 *October 1, 2025*):

27 (c) (1) A manufacturer permit for a farm winery shall be in all respects  
28 the same as a manufacturer permit, except that the scope of operations  
29 of the holder shall be limited to wine and brandies distilled from grape  
30 products or other fruit products, including grappa and eau-de-vie. As  
31 used in this section, "farm winery" means any place or premises that is  
32 located on a farm in the state in which wine is manufactured and sold.

33 (2) Such permit shall, at the single principal premises of the farm  
34 winery, authorize: (A) The sale in bulk by the holder thereof from the  
35 premises where the products are manufactured pursuant to such  
36 permit; (B) as to a manufacturer who produces one hundred thousand  
37 gallons of wine or less per year, the sale and shipment by the holder  
38 thereof to a retailer of wine manufactured by the farm winery permittee  
39 in the original sealed containers of not more than fifteen gallons per  
40 container; (C) the sale and shipment by the holder thereof of wine  
41 manufactured by the farm winery permittee to persons outside the state;  
42 (D) the offering and tasting of free samples of such wine or brandy,  
43 dispensed out of bottles or containers having capacities of not more than  
44 two gallons per bottle or container, to visitors and prospective retail  
45 customers for consumption on the premises of the farm winery  
46 permittee; (E) the sale at retail from the premises of sealed bottles or

47 other sealed containers of such wine or brandy for consumption off the  
48 premises; (F) the sale at retail from the premises of wine or brandy by  
49 the glass and bottle to visitors on the premises of the farm winery  
50 permittee for consumption on the premises; and (G) subject to the  
51 provisions of subdivision (3) of this subsection, the sale and delivery or  
52 shipment of wine manufactured by the permittee directly to a consumer  
53 in this state. Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraphs (D), (E)  
54 and (F) of this subdivision, a town may, by ordinance or zoning  
55 regulation, prohibit any such offering, tasting or selling at retail at  
56 premises within such town for which a manufacturer permit for a farm  
57 winery has been issued.

58 (3) A permittee, when selling and shipping wine directly to a  
59 consumer in this state, shall: (A) Ensure that the shipping labels on all  
60 containers of wine shipped directly to a consumer in this state  
61 conspicuously state the following: "CONTAINS ALCOHOL –  
62 SIGNATURE OF A PERSON AGE 21 OR OLDER REQUIRED FOR  
63 DELIVERY"; (B) obtain the signature of a person age twenty-one or  
64 older at the address prior to delivery, after requiring the signer to  
65 demonstrate that such signer is age twenty-one or older by providing a  
66 valid motor vehicle operator's license or a valid identity card described  
67 in section 1-1h; (C) not ship more than five gallons of wine in any two-  
68 month period to any person in this state; (D) pay, to the Department of  
69 Revenue Services, all sales taxes and alcoholic beverage taxes due under  
70 chapters 219 and 220 on sales of wine to consumers in this state, and file,  
71 with said department, all sales tax returns and alcoholic beverage tax  
72 returns relating to such sales; (E) report to the Department of Consumer  
73 Protection a separate and complete record of all sales and shipments to  
74 consumers in the state, on a ledger sheet or similar form which readily  
75 presents a chronological account of such permittee's dealings with each  
76 such consumer; (F) not ship to any address in the state where the sale of  
77 alcoholic liquor is prohibited by local option pursuant to section 30-9;  
78 and (G) hold an in-state [transporter's] transporter permit pursuant to  
79 section 30-19f, as amended by this act, or make any such shipment  
80 through the use of a person who holds such an in-state [transporter's]  
81 transporter permit.

82 (4) No licensed farm winery may sell any such wine or brandy not  
83 manufactured by such winery, except a licensed farm winery may sell  
84 from the premises: (A) Wine manufactured by another farm winery  
85 located in this state; and (B) brandy manufactured from fruit harvested  
86 in this state and distilled off the premises in this state.

87 (5) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision,  
88 the farm winery permittee shall grow on the premises of the farm  
89 winery or on property under the same ownership and control of said  
90 permittee or leased by the backer of a farm winery permit or by said  
91 permittee within the farm winery's principal state an average crop of  
92 fruit equal to not less than twenty-five per cent of the fruit used in the  
93 manufacture of the farm winery permittee's wine. An average crop shall  
94 be defined each year as the average yield of the farm winery permittee's  
95 two largest annual crops out of the preceding five years, except that  
96 during the first seven years from the date of issuance of a farm winery  
97 permit, an average crop shall be defined as three tons of grapes for each  
98 acre of vineyard farmed by the farm winery permittee. Such seven-year  
99 period shall not begin anew if the property for which the farm winery  
100 permit is held is transferred or sold during such seven-year period. In  
101 the event the farm winery consists of more than one property, the  
102 aggregate acreage of the farm winery shall not be less than five acres.

103 (B) If a farm winery permittee sustains a significant loss of the farm  
104 winery permittee's crop of fruit, such farm winery permittee shall, not  
105 later than December thirty-first of the year in which such farm winery  
106 permittee sustains such significant loss, certify to the Commissioner of  
107 Consumer Protection, in a form and manner prescribed by the  
108 commissioner, that such farm winery permittee has sustained such  
109 significant loss. If the commissioner determines, in the commissioner's  
110 discretion, that such farm winery permittee sustained such significant  
111 loss through no fault of such farm winery permittee, such farm winery  
112 permittee's lost crop of fruit shall, for the year in which such farm  
113 winery permittee sustained such significant loss, be deemed to satisfy  
114 the average crop requirement established in subparagraph (A) of this  
115 subdivision. For the purposes of this subparagraph, the commissioner

116 shall, in the commissioner's discretion, determine whether a qualitative  
117 or quantitative reduction in crop yield suffered by a farm winery  
118 permittee constitutes a significant loss.

119 (6) A holder of a manufacturer permit for a farm winery, when  
120 advertising or offering wine for direct shipment to a consumer in this  
121 state via the Internet or any other on-line computer network, shall  
122 clearly and conspicuously state such liquor permit number in its  
123 advertising.

124 (7) A holder of a manufacturer permit for a farm winery may sell and  
125 offer free tastings of wine manufactured from such winery at a farmers'  
126 market, as defined in section 22-6r, that is operated as a nonprofit  
127 enterprise or association, provided such farmers' market invites such  
128 holder to sell wine at such farmers' market and such holder has a  
129 farmers' market wine sales permit issued by the Commissioner of  
130 Consumer Protection in accordance with the provisions of section 30-  
131 37o.

132 (8) A holder of a manufacturer permit for a farm winery may, with  
133 the prior approval of the Department of Consumer Protection, sell wine,  
134 brandies, grappa and eau-de-vie manufactured by such farm winery  
135 permittee at not more than three retail outlets in addition to such farm  
136 winery permittee's permit premises, provided (A) each such retail outlet  
137 is located on land that is leased or owned by the backer of the farm  
138 winery permit and such farm winery permittee utilizes such land to  
139 grow fruit and produce alcoholic beverages manufactured exclusively  
140 by the farm winery, and (B) no such retail outlet is located within a  
141 grocery store, as defined in section 30-20, as amended by this act, or any  
142 other retail outlet unless otherwise permitted under the general statutes.

143 (9) The annual fee for a manufacturer permit for a farm winery shall  
144 be three hundred dollars.

145 (d) (1) A manufacturer permit for wine, cider and mead shall allow  
146 the manufacture of wine, cider not exceeding six per cent alcohol by  
147 volume, apple wine not exceeding fifteen per cent alcohol by volume,

148 apple brandy, eau-de-vie and mead and the storage, bottling and  
149 wholesale distribution and sale of wine, cider not exceeding six per cent  
150 alcohol by volume, apple wine not exceeding fifteen per cent alcohol by  
151 volume, apple brandy, eau-de-vie and mead manufactured or bottled  
152 by the permit holder to permittees in this state and without the state as  
153 may be permitted by law; but no such permit shall be granted unless the  
154 place or the plan of the place of manufacture has received the approval  
155 of the Department of Consumer Protection.

156 (2) Such permit shall, at a single principal premises, authorize: (A)  
157 The sale in bulk by the holder thereof from the premises where the  
158 products are manufactured pursuant to such permit; (B) as to a  
159 manufacturer who produces one hundred thousand gallons or less per  
160 year of products manufactured pursuant to such permit, the sale and  
161 shipment by the holder thereof to a retailer of such products  
162 manufactured by the permittee in the original sealed containers of not  
163 more than fifteen gallons per container; (C) the sale and shipment by the  
164 holder thereof of such products manufactured by the permittee to  
165 persons outside the state; (D) the offering and tasting of free samples of  
166 such products, dispensed out of bottles or containers having capacities  
167 of not more than two gallons per bottle or container, to visitors and  
168 prospective retail customers for consumption on the premises of the  
169 permittee; (E) subject to the provisions of subsection (d) of section 30-91,  
170 the sale at retail from the premises of sealed bottles or other sealed  
171 containers of such products for consumption off the premises; (F) the  
172 sale at retail from the premises of such products by the glass and bottle  
173 to visitors on the premises of the permittee for consumption on the  
174 premises; and (G) subject to the provisions of subdivision (3) of this  
175 subsection, the sale and delivery or shipment of such products  
176 manufactured by the permittee directly to a consumer in this state.  
177 Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraphs (D), (E) and (F) of this  
178 subdivision, a town may, by ordinance or zoning regulation, prohibit  
179 any such offering, tasting or selling at retail at premises within such  
180 town for which a manufacturer permit has been issued.

181 (3) A permittee, when selling and shipping a product produced

182 pursuant to this permit, directly to a consumer in this state, shall: (A)  
183 Ensure that the shipping labels on all containers of such products  
184 shipped directly to a consumer in this state conspicuously state the  
185 following: "CONTAINS ALCOHOL—SIGNATURE OF A PERSON  
186 AGE 21 OR OLDER REQUIRED FOR DELIVERY"; (B) obtain the  
187 signature of a person age twenty-one or older at the address prior to  
188 delivery, after requiring the signer to demonstrate that such signer is  
189 age twenty-one or older by providing a valid motor vehicle operator's  
190 license or a valid identity card described in section 1-1h; (C) not ship  
191 more than five gallons of product produced pursuant to this permit in  
192 any two-month period to any person in this state; (D) pay, to the  
193 Department of Revenue Services, all sales taxes and alcoholic beverage  
194 taxes due under chapters 219 and 220 on sales of products produced  
195 pursuant to this permit to consumers in this state, and file, with said  
196 department, all sales tax returns and alcoholic beverage tax returns  
197 relating to such sales; (E) report to the Department of Consumer  
198 Protection a separate and complete record of all sales and shipments to  
199 consumers in the state, on a ledger sheet or similar form which readily  
200 presents a chronological account of such permittee's dealings with each  
201 such consumer; (F) not ship to any address in the state where the sale of  
202 alcoholic liquor is prohibited by local option pursuant to section 30-9;  
203 and (G) hold an in-state [transporter's] transporter permit pursuant to  
204 section 30-19f, as amended by this act, or make any such shipment  
205 through the use of a person who holds such an in-state [transporter's]  
206 transporter permit.

207 (4) No holder of a manufacturer permit for wine, cider and mead may  
208 sell any product not manufactured by such permit holder, except such  
209 permittee may sell from the premises: (A) Wine, cider not exceeding six  
210 per cent alcohol by volume, apple wine not exceeding fifteen per cent  
211 alcohol by volume, apple brandy and eau-de-vie and mead  
212 manufactured by another such permit holder located in this state; and  
213 (B) brandy manufactured from fruit harvested in this state and distilled  
214 off the premises in this state.

215 (5) A holder of a manufacturer permit for wine, cider and mead,

216 when advertising or offering products for direct shipment to a consumer  
217 in this state via the Internet or any other on-line computer network, shall  
218 clearly and conspicuously state such liquor permit number in its  
219 advertising.

220 (6) A holder of a manufacturer permit for wine, cider and mead may  
221 sell and offer free tastings of products produced pursuant to such permit  
222 that are manufactured by such permit holder at a farmers' market, as  
223 defined in section 22-6r, that is operated as a nonprofit enterprise or  
224 association, provided such farmers' market invites such holder to sell  
225 such products at such farmers' market and such holder has a farmers'  
226 market sales permit issued by the Commissioner of Consumer  
227 Protection in accordance with the provisions of section 30-37o.

228 (7) The annual fee for a manufacturer permit for wine, cider and  
229 mead shall be two hundred dollars.

230 Sec. 3. Subsection (d) of section 30-16b of the general statutes is  
231 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
232 *1, 2025*):

233 (d) If a permittee is delivering alcoholic liquor and food, such  
234 delivery shall be made only by a direct employee of the permittee and  
235 not by a third-party vendor or entity, unless such third-party vendor or  
236 entity holds an in-state [transporter's] transporter permit issued under  
237 section 30-19f, as amended by this act.

238 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 30-16c of the general statutes is  
239 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
240 *1, 2025*):

241 (a) From June 4, 2021, until three years after June 4, 2021, the holder  
242 of any manufacturer permit issued [pursuant to] under section 30-16, as  
243 amended by this act, may deliver alcoholic liquor manufactured by such  
244 permittee, provided such delivery is made only by a direct employee of  
245 the permittee and not by a third-party vendor or entity, unless such  
246 third-party vendor or entity holds an in-state [transporter's] transporter



247 permit issued under section 30-19f, as amended by this act. Any  
248 alcoholic liquor delivered by a permittee under this section shall comply  
249 with all applicable limits of section 30-16, as amended by this act,  
250 allowing the permittee to sell at retail, from the permittee's premises,  
251 sealed bottles or other sealed containers of alcoholic liquor  
252 manufactured by the permittee on the premises for off-premises  
253 consumption.

254 Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 30-18 of the general statutes is  
255 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
256 *1, 2025*):

257 (b) Subject to the provisions of this subsection, an out-of-state  
258 shipper's permit for alcoholic liquor other than beer shall allow the sale  
259 and delivery or shipment of wine manufactured by the permittee on the  
260 permitted premises directly to a consumer in this state. Such permittee,  
261 when selling and shipping wine directly to a consumer in this state,  
262 shall: (1) Ensure that the shipping labels on all containers of wine  
263 shipped directly to a consumer in this state conspicuously state the  
264 following: "CONTAINS ALCOHOL—SIGNATURE OF A PERSON  
265 AGE 21 OR OLDER REQUIRED FOR DELIVERY"; (2) obtain the  
266 signature of a person age twenty-one or older at the address prior to  
267 delivery, after requiring the signer to demonstrate that he or she is age  
268 twenty-one or older by providing a valid motor vehicle operator's  
269 license or a valid identity card described in section 1-1h; (3) not ship  
270 more than five gallons of wine in any two-month period to any person  
271 in this state and not ship any wine until such permittee is registered,  
272 with respect to the permittee's sales of wine to consumers in this state,  
273 for purposes of the taxes imposed under chapters 219 and 220, with the  
274 Department of Revenue Services; (4) pay, to the Department of Revenue  
275 Services, all sales taxes and alcoholic beverage taxes due under chapters  
276 219 and 220 on sales of wine to consumers in this state, and file, with  
277 said department, all sales tax returns and alcoholic beverage tax returns  
278 relating to such sales, with the amount of such taxes to be calculated as  
279 if the sale were in this state at the location where delivery is made; (5)  
280 report to the Department of Consumer Protection a separate and

281 complete record of all sales and shipments to consumers in the state, on  
282 a ledger sheet or similar form which readily presents a chronological  
283 account of such permittee's dealings with each such consumer; (6)  
284 permit the Department of Consumer Protection and Department of  
285 Revenue Services, separately or jointly, to perform an audit of the  
286 permittee's records upon request; (7) not ship to any address in the state  
287 where the sale of alcoholic liquor is prohibited by local option pursuant  
288 to section 30-9; (8) hold an in-state [transporter's] transporter permit  
289 [pursuant to] under section 30-19f, as amended by this act, or make any  
290 such shipment through the use of a person who holds such an in-state  
291 [transporter's] transporter permit; and (9) execute a written consent to  
292 the jurisdiction of this state, its agencies and instrumentalities and the  
293 courts of this state concerning the enforcement of this section and any  
294 related laws, rules, or regulations, including, but not limited to, tax laws,  
295 rules or regulations.

296 Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 30-18a of the general statutes is  
297 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
298 *1, 2025*):

299 (b) Subject to the provisions of this subsection, the permits under  
300 subsection (a) of this section shall allow the sale and delivery or  
301 shipment of wine manufactured or sold by the permittee directly to a  
302 consumer in this state. Such permittee, when selling and shipping wine  
303 directly to a consumer in this state, shall: (1) Ensure that the shipping  
304 labels on all containers of wine shipped directly to a consumer in this  
305 state conspicuously state the following: "CONTAINS ALCOHOL—  
306 SIGNATURE OF A PERSON AGE 21 OR OLDER REQUIRED FOR  
307 DELIVERY"; (2) obtain the signature of a person age twenty-one or older  
308 at the address prior to delivery, after requiring the signer to demonstrate  
309 that he or she is age twenty-one or older by providing a valid motor  
310 vehicle operator's license or a valid identity card described in section 1-  
311 1h; (3) not ship more than five gallons of wine in any two-month period  
312 to any person in this state and not ship any wine until such permittee is  
313 registered, with respect to the permittee's sales of wine to consumers in  
314 this state, for purposes of the taxes imposed under chapters 219 and 220,

315 with the Department of Revenue Services; (4) pay, to the Department of  
316 Revenue Services, all sales taxes and alcoholic beverage taxes due under  
317 chapters 219 and 220 on sales of wine to consumers in this state, and file,  
318 with said department, all sales tax returns and alcoholic beverage tax  
319 returns relating to such sales, with the amount of such taxes to be  
320 calculated as if the sale were in this state at the location where delivery  
321 is made; (5) report to the Department of Consumer Protection a separate  
322 and complete record of all sales and shipments to consumers in the state,  
323 on a ledger sheet or similar form which readily presents a chronological  
324 account of such permittee's dealings with each such consumer; (6)  
325 permit the Department of Consumer Protection and Department of  
326 Revenue Services, separately or jointly, to perform an audit of the  
327 permittee's records upon request; (7) not ship to any address in the state  
328 where the sale of alcoholic liquor is prohibited by local option pursuant  
329 to section 30-9; (8) hold an in-state [transporter's] transporter permit  
330 [pursuant to] under section 30-19f, as amended by this act, or make any  
331 such shipment through the use of a person who holds such an in-state  
332 [transporter's] transporter permit; (9) execute a written consent to the  
333 jurisdiction of this state, its agencies and instrumentalities and the  
334 courts of this state concerning the enforcement of this section and any  
335 related laws, rules, or regulations, including tax laws, rules or  
336 regulations; and (10) comply with the provisions of section 30-68m  
337 regarding the prohibition of selling wine below cost.

338 Sec. 7. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 30-19f of the general statutes  
339 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
340 *October 1, 2025*):

341 (a) (1) An annual in-state [transporter's] transporter permit for  
342 alcoholic liquor shall allow the commercial transportation of any  
343 alcoholic liquor and, with the approval of the Department of Consumer  
344 Protection, the provision or sale of alcoholic liquor for consumption in  
345 a boat engaged in the transportation of passengers for hire or a motor  
346 vehicle in livery service, as permitted by law. One permit shall cover all  
347 such boats or vehicles that are under common control, direction,  
348 management or ownership. When applying for such approval, in a form

349 and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection,  
350 the owner of any such boat or vehicle in which the sale or consumption  
351 of alcoholic liquor will be available shall specifically identify to the  
352 department each such boat or vehicle. The [annual] fee for an annual in-  
353 state [transporter's] transporter liquor permit shall be one thousand two  
354 hundred fifty dollars for the first boat or vehicle and an additional  
355 annual fee of two hundred dollars for each additional boat or vehicle.

356 (2) A daily in-state transporter permit for alcoholic liquor shall allow  
357 the permittee to engage in the commercial transportation of any  
358 alcoholic liquor and, with the approval of the department, the provision  
359 or sale of alcoholic liquor for consumption in a boat engaged in the  
360 transportation of passengers for hire or a motor vehicle in livery service,  
361 as permitted by law. One permit shall cover all such boats or vehicles  
362 that are under common control, direction, management or ownership.  
363 When applying for such approval, in a form and manner prescribed by  
364 the commissioner, the owner of any such boat or vehicle in which the  
365 sale or consumption of alcoholic liquor will be available shall  
366 specifically identify to the department each such boat or vehicle. The fee  
367 for a daily in-state transporter liquor permit shall be one hundred fifty  
368 dollars for each boat or vehicle to be used in the state during the  
369 calendar year as requested on such application. Not more than eight  
370 daily in-state transporter liquor permits shall be issued to any one  
371 backer pursuant to this section per calendar year. During the calendar  
372 year in which a daily in-state transporter liquor permit is issued to a  
373 permittee pursuant to this subdivision, the permittee may apply to the  
374 department, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, to  
375 convert such daily in-state transporter liquor permit to an annual in-  
376 state transporter liquor permit. The effective date of such annual in-state  
377 transporter liquor permit shall be the effective date of the first daily in-  
378 state transporter liquor permit that was issued to such applicant during  
379 such calendar year. The fee for such annual in-state transporter liquor  
380 permit shall be the fee established in subdivision (1) of this subsection  
381 less the total fees such applicant paid for daily in-state transporter liquor  
382 permits during such calendar year, except no rebate shall be issued to  
383 such applicant if the total fees such applicant paid for daily in-state

384 transporter liquor permits during such calendar year exceeds the fee  
385 established in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

386 (b) No person or business entity, except the holder of an out-of-state  
387 shipper's permit issued under section 30-18, as amended by this act, or  
388 30-19, a manufacturer's permit issued under section 30-16, as amended  
389 by this act, other than a manufacturer permit for a farm winery or a  
390 manufacturer permit for wine, cider and mead, or a wholesaler's permit  
391 issued under section 30-17, shall transport any alcoholic beverages  
392 imported into this state unless: (1) Such person or business entity holds  
393 an in-state [transporter's] transporter permit issued under this section;  
394 (2) the tax imposed on such alcoholic liquor under section 12-435 has  
395 been paid; and (3) if applicable, the tax imposed on the sale of such  
396 alcoholic liquor under chapter 219 has been paid.

397 Sec. 8. Section 30-20 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
398 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

399 (a) For the purposes of this section, "grocery store" (1) means any  
400 store that (A) is commonly known as a delicatessen, food store, grocery  
401 store or supermarket, and (B) [is primarily engaged in the retail sale of]  
402 derives more than fifty per cent of such store's retail sales from any  
403 combination of dairy products, eggs and poultry, fruits and vegetables,  
404 meat, seafood, bakery products, various canned goods and dry goods  
405 such as coffee, flour, spices, sugar and tea, whether packaged or in bulk,  
406 [regardless of whether] except no such store [sells] shall be required to  
407 sell fresh fruits and vegetables or [fresh, prepared or smoked fish]  
408 poultry, meat [and poultry] or seafood, and (2) does not include any  
409 store that is primarily engaged in the retail sale of one category of food  
410 items such as bakery products, [candy, nuts and] candies,  
411 confectioneries, dairy products, eggs, [and poultry,] fruits and  
412 vegetables, meat, poultry or seafood.

413 (b) (1) A package store permit shall allow the retail sale of alcoholic  
414 liquor in sealed bottles or containers not to be consumed on the permit  
415 premises. The holder of a package store permit may, in accordance with  
416 regulations adopted by the Department of Consumer Protection

417 pursuant to the provisions of chapter 54, (A) offer free samples of  
418 alcoholic liquor for tasting on the permit premises, (B) conduct fee-  
419 based wine or spirits education and tasting classes and demonstrations,  
420 and (C) conduct tastings or demonstrations provided by a permittee or  
421 backer of the package store for a nominal charge to charitable nonprofit  
422 organizations. Any offering, tasting, wine or spirits education and  
423 tasting class or demonstration held on permit premises shall be  
424 conducted only during the hours the package store may sell alcoholic  
425 liquor under section 30-91, as amended by this act. No tasting of wine  
426 on the permit premises shall be offered from more than ten uncorked  
427 bottles at any one time. No holder, backer or permittee shall offer or  
428 provide to any customer (i) more than one-half ounce of any single spirit  
429 for sampling or tasting per day, or (ii) a total of more than two ounces  
430 of spirits for sampling or tasting per day. No tasting shall be provided  
431 below cost.

432 (2) No store operating under a package store permit shall sell any  
433 commodity other than alcoholic liquor except, notwithstanding any  
434 other provision of law, such store may sell (A) cigarettes and cigars, (B)  
435 publications, (C) bar utensils, including, but not limited to, corkscrews,  
436 beverage strainers, stirrers or other similar items used to consume, or  
437 related to the consumption of, alcoholic liquor, (D) gift packages of  
438 alcoholic liquor shipped into the state by a manufacturer or out-of-state  
439 shipper, which gift packages may include nonalcoholic items, other than  
440 food or tobacco products, if the dollar value of the nonalcoholic items in  
441 such gift package does not exceed the dollar value of the alcoholic items  
442 in such gift package, (E) complementary fresh fruits used in the  
443 preparation of mixed alcoholic beverages, (F) cheese, crackers or both,  
444 (G) olives, (H) nonalcoholic beverages, (I) concentrates used in the  
445 preparation of mixed alcoholic beverages, (J) beer and wine-making kits  
446 and products related to such kits, (K) ice in any form, (L) articles of  
447 clothing imprinted with advertising related to the alcoholic liquor  
448 industry, (M) gift baskets or other containers of alcoholic liquor, (N)  
449 multiple packages of alcoholic liquors, provided in all such cases the  
450 minimum retail selling price for such alcoholic liquor shall apply, (O)  
451 lottery tickets authorized by the Department of Consumer Protection, if

452 licensed as an agent to sell such tickets by the department, (P) devices  
453 and related accessories designed primarily for accessing and extracting  
454 a beverage containing alcohol from prepackaged containers, including,  
455 but not limited to, pods, pouches or similar containers, but excluding  
456 devices, including, but not limited to, household blenders, that are not  
457 designed primarily for such purposes, (Q) alcohol-infused confections  
458 containing not more than one-half of one per cent of alcohol by weight  
459 and which the commissioner has approved for sale under section 21a-  
460 101, (R) gift baskets containing only containers of alcoholic liquor and  
461 commodities authorized for sale under subparagraphs (A) to (Q),  
462 inclusive, of this subdivision, (S) infused beverages, as defined in section  
463 21a-425, provided (i) the package store permittee (I) paid to the  
464 department the annual fee for an infused beverage endorsement  
465 pursuant to this subdivision, and (II) purchased such infused beverages  
466 from the holder of a wholesaler permit or a wholesaler permit for beer  
467 issued under section 30-17, and (ii) such sales are made in accordance  
468 with the provisions of section 21a-425b, and (T) legacy infused  
469 beverages, as defined in section 21a-425d, provided all such sales shall  
470 be made (i) during the period beginning on July 1, 2024, and ending  
471 September 30, 2024, and (ii) in accordance with (I) a waiver issued  
472 pursuant to section 21a-425d, and (II) the requirements set forth in  
473 section 21a-425d. A package store permit shall also allow the taking and  
474 transmitting of orders for delivery of such merchandise in other states.  
475 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a package store permit  
476 shall allow the participation in any lottery ticket promotion or giveaway  
477 sponsored by the department. The annual fee for a package store permit  
478 shall be five hundred thirty-five dollars. The annual fee for an infused  
479 beverage endorsement to a package store permit shall be five hundred  
480 dollars, and shall be deposited by the department in the consumer  
481 protection enforcement account established in section 21a-8a.

482 (c) A grocery store beer permit may be granted to any grocery store  
483 and shall allow the retail sale of beer in standard size containers not to  
484 be consumed on the permit premises. The holder of a grocery store beer  
485 permit shall post, in a prominent location adjacent to the beer display,  
486 the retail price for each brand of beer and such retail price shall include

487 all applicable federal and state taxes, including, but not limited to, the  
488 applicable state sales taxes. The annual fee for a grocery store beer  
489 permit shall be one hundred seventy dollars, or, for a grocery store that  
490 has annual sales of food and grocery items of at least two million dollars,  
491 one thousand five hundred dollars.

492 (d) The holder of a package store permit or a grocery store beer  
493 permit issued under this section may allow curbside pick-up of  
494 previously purchased alcoholic liquor by (1) the consumer who  
495 purchased such alcoholic liquor, or (2) the holder of an in-state  
496 [transporter's] transporter permit issued under section 30-19f, as  
497 amended by this act, or such holder's agent. Such curbside pick-up shall  
498 be limited to the space immediately adjacent to, or in a parking lot  
499 abutting, the permit premises. The holder of such package store permit  
500 or grocery store beer permit may allow such curbside pick-up only  
501 during the hours the package store or grocery store is allowed to sell  
502 alcoholic liquor under subsection (d) of section 30-91 unless a more  
503 restrictive municipal ordinance limits such curbside pick-up hours.

504 Sec. 9. Section 30-22b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
505 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

506 (a) For the purposes of this section:

507 (1) "Catering establishment" means any premises that (A) has an  
508 adequate, suitable and sanitary kitchen, dining room and facilities to  
509 provide hot meals in compliance with the regulations of the local  
510 department of health, (B) has no sleeping accommodations for the  
511 public, (C) is owned or operated by any person who, or business entity  
512 that, (i) regularly furnishes for hire on such premises one or more  
513 ballrooms, reception rooms, dining rooms, banquet halls or similar  
514 places of assemblage for a particular function, occasion or event, or (ii)  
515 furnishes provisions and services for consumption or use at any  
516 function, occasion or event described in subparagraph (C)(i) of this  
517 subdivision, and (D) employs an adequate number of employees on  
518 such premises at the time of any function, occasion or event described  
519 in subparagraph (C)(i) of this subdivision; and



520 (2) "Qualified managed residential community" means a managed  
521 residential community, as defined in section 19a-693, that (A) has an  
522 adequate, suitable and sanitary kitchen, dining room and facilities to  
523 provide hot meals in compliance with the regulations of the local  
524 department of health, (B) provides daily meals in the dining room  
525 described in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, and (C) exclusively  
526 serves meals to (i) residents of the managed residential community and  
527 their guests, and (ii) employees of the managed residential community.

528 [(a)] (b) (1) A restaurant permit for a catering establishment or  
529 qualified managed residential community shall allow a catering  
530 establishment or a qualified managed residential community to serve  
531 alcoholic liquor at a function, occasion or event on the premises of [a]  
532 the catering establishment [ ] or qualified managed residential  
533 community, and shall allow a qualified managed residential community  
534 to serve alcoholic liquor at the daily scheduled meals on the premises of  
535 the qualified managed residential community, provided [(1)] (A)  
536 alcoholic liquor shall be sold only to persons invited to and attending  
537 such [a] function, occasion, [or] event or meals, and [(2)] (B) alcoholic  
538 liquor shall be sold only during the specific hours such function,  
539 occasion or event is, or meals are, scheduled on [the] such premises. The  
540 permittee shall comply with the regulations of the local department of  
541 health.

542 (2) The department may waive the requirements of [subdivisions (1)  
543 and (2)] subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection  
544 (A) for not more than sixteen functions, occasions or events of a catering  
545 establishment annually, provided such establishment makes written  
546 application to the department at least ten days prior to the scheduled  
547 date of the function, occasion or event for which a waiver is sought, and  
548 (B) permanently for a qualified managed residential community,  
549 provided such community offers alcoholic beverages exclusively with  
550 daily scheduled meals on the premises of such community.

551 (3) The annual fee for a restaurant permit for a catering establishment  
552 or qualified managed residential community shall be one thousand four

553 hundred fifty dollars.

554 [(b)] (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require that any  
555 catering establishment operated under a restaurant permit for a catering  
556 establishment be open for business to the public at any time other than  
557 when a particular function, occasion or event is scheduled on such  
558 premises.

559 [(c)] (d) No organization eligible for a club or nonprofit club permit,  
560 or other entity established primarily to serve its members, shall be  
561 eligible for a restaurant permit for a catering establishment.

562 [(d) "Catering establishment" means any premises that (1) has an  
563 adequate, suitable and sanitary kitchen, dining room and facilities to  
564 provide hot meals, (2) has no sleeping accommodations for the public,  
565 (3) is owned or operated by any person who, or business entity that, (A)  
566 regularly furnishes for hire on such premises one or more ballrooms,  
567 reception rooms, dining rooms, banquet halls or similar places of  
568 assemblage for a particular function, occasion or event, or (B) furnishes  
569 provisions and services for consumption or use at any function, occasion  
570 or event described in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, and (4)  
571 employs an adequate number of employees on such premises at the time  
572 of any function, occasion or event described in subparagraph (A) of  
573 subdivision (3) of this subsection.]

574 Sec. 10. Subsection (g) of section 30-37u of the general statutes is  
575 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
576 *1, 2025*):

577 (g) A temporary auction permit issued under this section shall allow  
578 for the delivery and shipment of any beer, spirits or wine sold at an  
579 auction conducted pursuant to such permit directly to the consumer  
580 who purchased such beer, spirits or wine. Any shipment to a consumer  
581 outside of this state is subject to all applicable laws of the jurisdiction in  
582 which such consumer is located. When shipping such beer, spirits or  
583 wine directly to a consumer in this state, the holder of such permit shall:  
584 (1) Ensure that the shipping label on each container containing such

585 beer, spirits or wine states the following: "CONTAINS ALCOHOL –  
586 SIGNATURE OF A PERSON AGE 21 OR OLDER REQUIRED FOR  
587 DELIVERY"; (2) obtain the signature of a person who is at least twenty-  
588 one years of age at the delivery address prior to delivery, after requiring  
589 such person to demonstrate that such person is at least twenty-one years  
590 of age by providing a valid motor vehicle operator's license or a valid  
591 identity card described in section 1-1h; (3) not ship such beer, spirits or  
592 wine to any address in this state where the sale of alcoholic liquor is  
593 prohibited by local option pursuant to section 30-9; and (4) make any  
594 such shipment through the use of a person who holds an in-state  
595 [transporter's] transporter permit issued under section 30-19f, as  
596 amended by this act.

597 Sec. 11. Section 30-39 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
598 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

599 (a) For the purposes of this section, the "filing date" of an application  
600 means the date upon which the department, after approving the  
601 application for processing, mails or otherwise delivers to the applicant  
602 a placard containing such date.

603 (b) (1) Any person desiring a liquor permit or a renewal of such a  
604 permit shall make an affirmed application therefor to the Department of  
605 Consumer Protection, upon forms to be furnished by the department,  
606 showing the name and address of the applicant and of the applicant's  
607 backer, if any, the location of the club or place of business which is to be  
608 operated under such permit and a financial statement setting forth all  
609 elements and details of any business transactions connected with the  
610 application. Such application shall include a detailed description of the  
611 type of live entertainment that is to be provided. A club or place of  
612 business shall be exempt from providing such detailed description if the  
613 club or place of business (A) was issued a liquor permit prior to October  
614 1, 1993, and (B) has not altered the type of entertainment provided. The  
615 application shall also indicate any crimes of which the applicant or the  
616 applicant's backer may have been convicted. [Applicants shall submit]  
617 The department shall not review an initial application until the

618 applicant has submitted all documents [, only upon initial application,  
619 sufficient] necessary to establish that state and local building, fire and  
620 zoning requirements and local ordinances concerning hours and days  
621 of sale will be met, except that local building and zoning requirements  
622 and local ordinances concerning hours and days of sale shall not apply  
623 to a cafe permit issued under subsection (d) or (h) of section 30-22a. If  
624 the applicant does not submit all such documents within the thirty-day  
625 period beginning on the date on which the department receives the  
626 initial application, or if such documents are not fully executed by the  
627 appropriate authorities, such initial application shall be deemed  
628 withdrawn and invalid. The State Fire Marshal or the marshal's certified  
629 designee shall be responsible for approving compliance with the State  
630 Fire Code at Bradley International Airport. Any person desiring a  
631 permit provided for in section 30-33b shall file a copy of such person's  
632 license with such application if such license was issued by the  
633 Department of Consumer Protection. The department may, at its  
634 discretion, conduct an investigation to determine (i) whether a permit  
635 shall be issued to an applicant or the applicant's backer, or (ii) the  
636 suitability of the proposed permit premises. Completion of an  
637 inspection pursuant to subsection (f) of section 29-305 shall not be  
638 deemed to constitute a precondition to renewal of a permit that is  
639 subject to subsection (f) of section 29-305.

640 (2) The applicant shall pay to the department a nonrefundable  
641 application fee, which fee shall be in addition to the fees prescribed in  
642 this chapter for the permit sought. An application fee shall not be  
643 charged for an application to renew a permit. The application fee shall  
644 be in the amount of ten dollars for the filing of each application for a  
645 permit by a nonprofit golf tournament permit under section 30-37g or a  
646 temporary liquor permit for a noncommercial entity under section 30-  
647 35; and in the amount of one hundred dollars for the filing of an initial  
648 application for all other permits. Any permit issued shall be valid only  
649 for the purposes and activities described in the application.

650 (3) [The applicant, immediately after filing an application, shall give  
651 notice thereof, with the name and residence of the permittee, the type of

652 permit applied for and the location of the place of business for which  
653 such permit is to be issued and the type of live entertainment to be  
654 provided, all in a form prescribed by the department, by publishing the  
655 same in a newspaper having a circulation in the town in which the place  
656 of business to be operated under such permit is to be located, at least  
657 once a week for two successive weeks, the first publication to be not  
658 more than seven days after the filing date of the application and the last  
659 publication not more than fourteen days after the filing date of the  
660 application.] The applicant shall affix, and maintain in a legible  
661 condition upon the outer door of the building wherein such place of  
662 business is to be located and clearly visible from the public highway, the  
663 placard provided by the department, not later than the day following  
664 the receipt of the placard by the applicant. If such outer door of such  
665 premises is so far from the public highway that such placard is not  
666 clearly visible as provided, the department shall direct a suitable  
667 method to notify the public of such application. When an application is  
668 filed for any type of permit for a building that has not been constructed,  
669 such applicant shall erect and maintain in a legible condition a sign not  
670 less than six feet by four feet upon the site where such place of business  
671 is to be located, instead of such placard upon the outer door of the  
672 building. The sign shall set forth the type of permit applied for and the  
673 name of the proposed permittee, shall be clearly visible from the public  
674 highway and shall be so erected not later than the day following the  
675 receipt of the placard. Such applicant shall make a return to the  
676 department, under oath, of compliance with the foregoing  
677 requirements, in such form as the department may determine, but the  
678 department may require any additional proof of such compliance. Upon  
679 receipt of evidence of such compliance, the department may hold a  
680 hearing as to the suitability of the proposed location. The provisions of  
681 this subdivision shall not apply to applications for (A) airline permits  
682 issued under section 30-28a, (B) temporary liquor permits for  
683 noncommercial entities issued under section 30-35, (C) concession  
684 permits issued under section 30-33, (D) military permits issued under  
685 section 30-34, (E) cafe permits issued under subsection (h) of section 30-  
686 22a, (F) warehouse permits issued under section 30-32, (G) broker's

687 permits issued under section 30-30, (H) out-of-state shipper's permits  
688 for alcoholic liquor issued under section 30-18, as amended by this act,  
689 (I) out-of-state shipper's permits for beer issued under section 30-19, (J)  
690 coliseum permits issued under section 30-33a, (K) nonprofit golf  
691 tournament permits issued under section 30-37g, (L) Connecticut craft  
692 cafe permits issued under section 30-22d to permittees who held a  
693 manufacturer permit for a brew pub or a manufacturer permit for beer  
694 issued under subsection (b) of section 30-16 and a brew pub before July  
695 1, 2020, (M) off-site farm winery sales and wine, cider and mead tasting  
696 permits issued under section 30-16a, (N) out-of-state retailer shipper's  
697 permits for wine issued under section 30-18a, as amended by this act,  
698 (O) out-of-state winery shipper's permits for wine issued under section  
699 30-18a, as amended by this act, (P) in-state [transporter's] transporter  
700 permits for alcoholic liquor issued under section 30-19f, as amended by  
701 this act, including, but not limited to, boats operating under such  
702 permits, (Q) seasonal outdoor open-air permits issued under section 30-  
703 22e, (R) festival permits issued under section 30-37t, (S) temporary  
704 auction permits issued under section 30-37u, as amended by this act, (T)  
705 outdoor open-air permits issued under section 30-22f, and (U) renewals  
706 of any permit described in subparagraphs (A) to (T), inclusive, of this  
707 subdivision, if applicable. The provisions of this subdivision regarding  
708 [publication and] placard display shall also be required of any applicant  
709 who seeks to amend the type of entertainment either upon filing of a  
710 renewal application or upon requesting permission of the department  
711 in a form that requires the approval of the municipal zoning official.

712 (4) In any case in which a permit has been issued to a partnership, if  
713 one or more of the partners dies or retires, the remaining partner or  
714 partners need not file a new application for the unexpired portion of the  
715 current permit, and no additional fee for such unexpired portion shall  
716 be required. Notice of any such change shall be given to the department  
717 and the permit shall be endorsed to show correct ownership. When any  
718 partnership changes by reason of the addition of one or more persons, a  
719 new application with new fees shall be required.

720 (c) Any ten persons who are at least eighteen years of age, and are

721 residents of the town within which the business for which the permit or  
722 renewal thereof has been applied for, is intended to be operated, or, in  
723 the case of a manufacturer's or a wholesaler's permit, any ten persons  
724 who are at least eighteen years of age and are residents of the state, may  
725 file with the department, within three weeks [from] after the last date  
726 [of publication of notice made] on which the applicant posts the placard  
727 pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of this section for an initial  
728 permit, and in the case of renewal of an existing permit, at least twenty-  
729 one days before the renewal date of such permit, a remonstrance  
730 containing any objection to the suitability of such applicant or proposed  
731 place of business, provided any such issue is not controlled by local  
732 zoning. Upon the filing of such remonstrance, the department, upon  
733 written application, shall hold a hearing and shall give such notice as it  
734 deems reasonable of the time and place at least five days before such  
735 hearing is had. The remonstrants shall designate one or more agents for  
736 service, who shall serve as the recipient or recipients of all notices issued  
737 by the department. At any time prior to the issuance of a decision by the  
738 department, a remonstrance may be withdrawn by the remonstrants or  
739 by such agent or agents acting on behalf of such remonstrants and the  
740 department may cancel the hearing or withdraw the case. The decision  
741 of the department on such application shall be final with respect to the  
742 remonstrance. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to  
743 festival permits issued under section 30-37t.

744 (d) No new permit shall be issued until the foregoing provisions of  
745 subsections (a) and (b) of this section have been complied with. If no  
746 new permit is issued within twelve months of the filing date, as defined  
747 in subsection (a) of this section, the application may, in the discretion of  
748 the department, be deemed withdrawn and shall then be returned to the  
749 applicant. Six months' or seasonal permits may be renewed, provided  
750 the renewal application and fee shall be filed at least twenty-one days  
751 before the reopening of the business, there is no change in the permittee,  
752 ownership or type of permit, and the permittee or backer did not receive  
753 a rebate of the permit fee with respect to the permit issued for the  
754 previous year.

755 (e) The department may renew a permit that has expired if the  
756 applicant pays to the department a nonrefundable late fee pursuant to  
757 subsection (c) of section 21a-4, which fee shall be in addition to the fees  
758 prescribed in this chapter for the permit applied for. The provisions of  
759 this subsection shall not apply to one-day permits, to any permit which  
760 is the subject of administrative or court proceedings, or where otherwise  
761 provided by law.

762 (f) (1) On and after July 1, 2026, no initial final permit shall be issued,  
763 and no transfer of interest application or application to permanently  
764 substitute the identity of the permittee shall be approved, to an  
765 applicant that offers or provides, or seeks to offer or provide, the direct  
766 sale of alcoholic beverages to consumers for on-premises or off-premises  
767 consumption unless the applicant, the applicant's backer, all members  
768 of the applicant's backer and the permittee have completed a liquor  
769 education program. Such liquor education program shall be created,  
770 offered and conducted in a form and manner prescribed by the  
771 department, and shall address (A) the prevention of (i) sales of alcoholic  
772 liquor to minors, and (ii) overservice of alcoholic liquor, (B) restrictions  
773 on alcoholic beverage promotions, and (C) any other topics prescribed  
774 by the department.

775 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this  
776 subsection, (A) the department may, in the department's discretion,  
777 waive the liquor education program requirement established in said  
778 subdivision, provided the department waives such requirement in  
779 writing, (B) no person who holds an active provisional permit on July 1,  
780 2026, shall be required to complete the liquor education program  
781 required under said subdivision in order to obtain a final permit, and  
782 (C) no person who holds an active final permit on July 1, 2026, shall be  
783 required to complete such liquor education program in order to renew  
784 such permit.

785 ~~[(f)]~~ (g) No person who assists an applicant, backer or permittee in  
786 submitting an application for a liquor permit shall submit, or cause to  
787 be submitted, any false statement in connection with such application,



788 or engage in any conduct which delays or impedes the department in  
789 processing such application. A violation of this subsection shall be  
790 deemed an unfair or deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of  
791 section 42-110b. The commissioner, after providing an opportunity for  
792 a hearing in accordance with chapter 54, may impose on any person who  
793 violates the provisions of this subsection a civil penalty in an amount  
794 not to exceed one thousand dollars per violation, and may order such  
795 person to pay restitution to the applicant, backer or permittee. All civil  
796 penalties paid, collected or recovered under this subsection shall be  
797 deposited in the consumer protection enforcement account established  
798 in section 21a-8a.

799 Sec. 12. Section 30-45 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
800 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

801 The Department of Consumer Protection shall refuse permits for the  
802 sale of alcoholic liquor to the following persons: (1) Any state marshal,  
803 judicial marshal, judge of any court, prosecuting officer or member of  
804 any police force; (2) any minor; (3) any constable who (A) performs  
805 criminal law enforcement duties and is considered a peace officer by  
806 town ordinance pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) of section  
807 54-1f, or (B) is certified under the provisions of sections 7-294a to 7-294e,  
808 inclusive, and performs criminal law enforcement duties pursuant to  
809 the provisions of subsection (c) of section 54-1f; and (4) any special  
810 constable appointed pursuant to section 7-92. This section shall not  
811 apply to any out-of-state shipper's permit issued under section 30-18, as  
812 amended by this act, 30-18a, as amended by this act, or 30-19, any cafe  
813 permit issued under section 30-22a, any cafe permit for wine, beer and  
814 cider issued under section 30-22g, any boat operating under any in-state  
815 [transporter's] transporter permit issued under section 30-19f, as  
816 amended by this act, or any airline permit issued under section 30-28a.  
817 As used in this section, "minor" means a minor, as defined in section 1-  
818 1d or as defined in section 30-1, whichever age is older.

819 Sec. 13. Section 30-47 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
820 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

821 (a) The Department of Consumer Protection may, in [its] the  
822 department's discretion, suspend, revoke or refuse to grant or renew a  
823 permit for the sale of alcoholic liquor, or impose a fine of not greater  
824 than one thousand dollars per violation, if the department has  
825 reasonable cause to believe: (1) That the applicant or permittee appears  
826 to be financially irresponsible or neglects to provide for the applicant's  
827 or permittee's family, or neglects or is unable to pay the applicant's or  
828 permittee's just debts; (2) that the applicant or permittee has been  
829 provided with funds by any wholesaler or manufacturer or has any  
830 forbidden connection with any other class of permittee as provided in  
831 this chapter; (3) that the applicant or permittee is in the habit of using  
832 alcoholic beverages to excess; (4) that the applicant or permittee has  
833 wilfully made any false statement to the department in a material  
834 matter; (5) that the applicant or permittee has been convicted of  
835 violating any of the liquor laws of this or any other state or the liquor  
836 laws of the United States or has been convicted of a felony as such term  
837 is defined in section 53a-25, provided any action taken is based upon (A)  
838 the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the applicant or  
839 permittee's ability to safely or competently perform the duties  
840 associated with such permit, (B) information pertaining to the degree of  
841 rehabilitation of the applicant or permittee, and (C) the time elapsed  
842 since the conviction or release, or has such a criminal record that the  
843 department reasonably believes the applicant or permittee is not a  
844 suitable person to hold a permit, provided no refusal shall be rendered  
845 under this subdivision except in accordance with the provisions of  
846 sections 46a-80 and 46a-81; (6) that the applicant or permittee has not  
847 been delegated full authority and control of the permit premises and of  
848 the conduct of all business on such premises; or (7) that the applicant,  
849 applicant's backer, backer or permittee has violated (A) any provision of  
850 this chapter or any regulation adopted under this chapter, or (B) any  
851 provision of sections 21a-425 to 21a-425d, inclusive, or any regulation  
852 adopted under subsection (k) of section 21a-425a. Any applicant,  
853 applicant's backer or backer shall be subject to the same disqualifications  
854 as provided in this chapter, or any regulation adopted under this  
855 chapter, for permittees.

856 (b) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may, in [his or her]  
857 the commissioner's discretion, require a permittee who has had [his or  
858 her] the permittee's permit for the sale of alcoholic liquor suspended or  
859 revoked pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to have such  
860 permittee's employees participate in an alcohol seller and server  
861 training program approved by the commissioner. The commissioner  
862 may require proof of completion of the program from the permittee  
863 prior to reactivation or reissuance of such permit.

864 [(c) In lieu of suspending or revoking a permit for the sale of alcoholic  
865 liquor pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the commissioner may  
866 require a permittee to have such permittee's employees participate in an  
867 alcohol seller and server training program.]

868 (c) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may, in the  
869 commissioner's discretion, enter into a settlement agreement, or a  
870 comparable negotiated settlement instrument, in lieu of proceeding to  
871 an administrative hearing. Such agreement or instrument may contain,  
872 but need not be limited to, provisions concerning settlement fees,  
873 probation, the suspension or placement of conditions on a permit issued  
874 by the department pursuant to this chapter, training requirements and  
875 additional security measures.

876 (d) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense  
877 may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether  
878 such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from  
879 obtaining a permit issued or conferred by the department pursuant to  
880 this chapter based on (A) the nature of the conviction and its  
881 relationship to the individual's ability to safely or competently perform  
882 the duties or responsibilities associated with such permit, (B)  
883 information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual,  
884 and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of the individual.

885 (2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the  
886 individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the  
887 commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than  
888 fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The

889 department may waive such fee.

890 (3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this  
891 subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such  
892 request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted,  
893 such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a permit  
894 issued [pursuant to] under this chapter.

895 (4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under  
896 this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines  
897 that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information  
898 presented in the determination request.

899 Sec. 14. Subsection (a) of section 30-48 of the general statutes is  
900 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
901 *1, 2025*):

902 (a) No backer or permittee of one permit class shall be a backer or  
903 permittee of any other permit class except in the case of airline permits  
904 issued under section 30-28a, boats operating under in-state  
905 [transporter's] transporter permits issued under section 30-19f, as  
906 amended by this act, and cafe permits issued under subsections (d) and  
907 (h) of section 30-22a, except that: (1) A backer of a hotel permit issued  
908 under section 30-21 or a restaurant permit issued under section 30-22  
909 may be a backer of both such classes; (2) a holder or backer of a  
910 restaurant permit issued under section 30-22, a cafe permit issued under  
911 subsection (a) of section 30-22a or a cafe permit for wine, beer and cider  
912 issued under section 30-22g may be a holder or backer of any other or  
913 all of such classes; (3) a holder or backer of a restaurant permit issued  
914 under section 30-22 may be a holder or backer of a cafe permit issued  
915 under subsection (f) of section 30-22a; (4) a backer of a restaurant permit  
916 issued under section 30-22 may be a backer of a coliseum permit issued  
917 under section 30-33a when such restaurant is within a coliseum; (5) a  
918 backer of a hotel permit issued under section 30-21 may be a backer of a  
919 coliseum permit issued under section 30-33a; (6) a backer of a grocery  
920 store beer permit issued under subsection (c) of section 30-20, as  
921 amended by this act, may be (A) a backer of a package store permit

922 issued under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as amended by this act, if  
923 such was the case on or before May 1, 1996, and (B) a backer of a  
924 restaurant permit issued under section 30-22, provided the restaurant  
925 permit premises do not abut or share the same space as the grocery store  
926 beer permit premises; (7) a backer of a cafe permit issued under  
927 subsection (j) of section 30-22a, may be a backer of a nonprofit theater  
928 permit issued under section 30-35a; (8) a backer of a nonprofit theater  
929 permit issued under section 30-35a may be a holder or backer of a hotel  
930 permit issued under section 30-21 or a coliseum permit issued under  
931 section 30-33a; (9) a backer of a concession permit issued under section  
932 30-33 may be a backer of a coliseum permit issued under section 30-33a;  
933 (10) a holder of an out-of-state winery shipper's permit for wine issued  
934 under section 30-18a, as amended by this act, may be a holder of an in-  
935 state [transporter's] transporter permit issued under section 30-19f, as  
936 amended by this act; (11) a holder of an out-of-state shipper's permit for  
937 alcoholic liquor issued under section 30-18, as amended by this act, or  
938 an out-of-state winery shipper's permit for wine issued under section  
939 30-18a, as amended by this act, may be a holder of an in-state  
940 [transporter's] transporter permit issued under section 30-19f, as  
941 amended by this act; (12) a holder of a manufacturer permit for a farm  
942 winery issued under subsection (c) of section 30-16, as amended by this  
943 act, or a manufacturer permit for wine, cider and mead issued under  
944 subsection (d) of section 30-16, as amended by this act, may be a holder  
945 of an in-state [transporter's] transporter permit issued under section 30-  
946 19f, as amended by this act, an off-site farm winery sales and tasting  
947 permit issued under section 30-16a or any combination of such permits;  
948 (13) the holder of a manufacturer permit for spirits, beer, a farm winery  
949 or wine, cider and mead, issued under subsection (a), (b), (c) or (d),  
950 respectively, of section 30-16, as amended by this act, may be a holder  
951 of a Connecticut craft cafe permit issued under section 30-22d, a  
952 restaurant permit or a restaurant permit for wine and beer issued under  
953 section 30-22 or a farmers' market sales permit issued under section 30-  
954 37o; (14) the holder of a restaurant permit issued under section 30-22, a  
955 cafe permit issued under section 30-22a, a cafe permit for wine, beer and  
956 cider issued under section 30-22g or an in-state [transporter's]

957 transporter permit issued under section 30-19f, as amended by this act,  
958 may be the holder of a seasonal outdoor open-air permit issued under  
959 section 30-22e or an outdoor open-air permit issued under section 30-  
960 22f; (15) the holder of a festival permit issued under section 30-37t may  
961 be the holder or backer of one or more of such other classes; (16) the  
962 holder of an out-of-state shipper's permit for alcoholic liquor other than  
963 beer issued under section 30-18, as amended by this act, an out-of-state  
964 winery shipper's permit for wine issued under section 30-18a, as  
965 amended by this act, or an out-of-state shipper's permit for beer issued  
966 under section 30-19 may be the holder of an out-of-state retailer  
967 shipper's permit for wine issued under section 30-18a, as amended by  
968 this act; and (17) the holder of a restaurant permit issued under section  
969 30-22 may be a holder of a Connecticut craft cafe permit issued under  
970 section 30-22d, provided the permit premises are located at two  
971 different addresses. Any person may be a permittee of more than one  
972 permit. No holder of a manufacturer permit for beer issued under  
973 subsection (b) of section 30-16 and no spouse or child of such holder  
974 may be a holder or backer of more than three restaurant permits issued  
975 under section 30-22, cafe permits issued under section 30-22a or cafe  
976 permits for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-22g.

977 Sec. 15. Section 30-87 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
978 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

979 Any person who induces any minor to procure alcoholic liquor from  
980 any person permitted to sell such alcoholic liquor shall be subject to the  
981 penalties prescribed in section 30-113. The provisions of this section  
982 shall not apply to (1) the procurement of liquor by a person over age  
983 eighteen who is an employee or permit holder under section 30-90a  
984 where such procurement is made in the course of such person's  
985 employment or business, or (2) any such inducement in furtherance of  
986 an official investigation or enforcement activity authorized or  
987 conducted by a law enforcement agency or the Department of  
988 Consumer Protection. Nothing in this section shall be construed to  
989 prevent any action from being taken under section 30-55 or section 30-  
990 86, or both, against any person permitted to sell alcoholic liquor who

991 has sold alcoholic liquor to a minor where such minor is participating in  
992 an official investigation or enforcement activity authorized or  
993 conducted by a law enforcement agency or the department.

994 Sec. 16. Subsection (a) of section 30-91 of the general statutes is  
995 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
996 *1, 2025*):

997 (a) The sale, dispensing, consumption or presence in glasses or other  
998 receptacles suitable to allow for the consumption of alcoholic liquor by  
999 an individual in places operating under hotel permits issued under  
1000 section 30-21, restaurant permits issued under section 30-22, cafe  
1001 permits issued under section 30-22a, cafe permits for wine, beer and  
1002 cider issued under section 30-22g, Connecticut craft cafe permits issued  
1003 under section 30-22d, club permits issued under section 30-22aa,  
1004 restaurant permits for catering establishments or qualified managed  
1005 residential communities issued under section 30-22b, as amended by  
1006 this act, coliseum permits issued under section 30-33a, temporary liquor  
1007 permits for noncommercial entities issued under section 30-35,  
1008 nonprofit public museum permits issued under section 30-37a,  
1009 manufacturer permits for beer, a farm winery or wine, cider and mead  
1010 issued under subsection (b), (c) or (d), respectively, of section 30-16, as  
1011 amended by this act, casino permits issued under section 30-37k and  
1012 caterer liquor permits issued under section 30-37j shall be unlawful on:  
1013 (1) Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday between the  
1014 hours of one o'clock a.m. and nine o'clock a.m.; (2) Saturday between the  
1015 hours of two o'clock a.m. and nine o'clock a.m.; (3) Sunday between the  
1016 hours of two o'clock a.m. and ten o'clock a.m.; (4) Christmas, except (A)  
1017 for alcoholic liquor that is served where food is also available during the  
1018 hours otherwise permitted by this section for the day on which  
1019 Christmas falls, and (B) by casino permittees at casinos, as defined in  
1020 section 30-37k; and (5) January first between the hours of three o'clock  
1021 a.m. and nine o'clock a.m., except that on any Sunday that is January  
1022 first the prohibitions of this section shall be between the hours of three  
1023 o'clock a.m. and ten o'clock a.m.

1024 Sec. 17. Subsection (a) of section 52-572w of the general statutes is  
1025 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
1026 *1, 2025*):

1027 (a) Any covenant, agreement or understanding in, in connection with  
1028 or collateral to any contract or agreement made or entered into with any  
1029 caterer or catering establishment, as defined in subsection [(d)] (a) of  
1030 section 30-22b, as amended by this act, that exempts such caterer or  
1031 catering establishment from liability for damages for bodily injury to  
1032 persons or damage to property caused by or resulting from the  
1033 negligence of the caterer or catering establishment, the agents, servants  
1034 or employees of such caterer or catering establishment or the patrons at  
1035 the event to which such contract or agreement pertains is against public  
1036 policy and void.

1037 Sec. 18. Section 30-53 of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*  
1038 *October 1, 2025*)

|   |                        |                   |
|---|------------------------|-------------------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |                        |                   |
| Section 1   | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 30-14(a) and (b)  |
| Sec. 2  | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 30-16(c) and (d)  |
| Sec. 3  | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 30-16b(d)         |
| Sec. 4  | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 30-16c(a)         |
| Sec. 5  | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 30-18(b)          |
| Sec. 6  | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 30-18a(b)         |
| Sec. 7  | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 30-19f(a) and (b) |
| Sec. 8  | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 30-20             |
| Sec. 9  | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 30-22b            |
| Sec. 10   | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 30-37u(g)         |
| Sec. 11   | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 30-39             |
| Sec. 12   | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 30-45             |
| Sec. 13   | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 30-47             |
| Sec. 14   | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 30-48(a)          |
| Sec. 15   | <i>from passage</i>    | 30-87             |
| Sec. 16   | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 30-91(a)          |
| Sec. 17   | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 52-572w(a)        |
| Sec. 18   | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | Repealer section  |



**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In Section 9(b)(1), "and a qualified managed residential community may serve" was changed to "and shall allow a qualified managed residential community to serve" for internal consistency.

**GL**        *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

| Agency Affected               | Fund-Effect         | FY 26 \$  | FY 27 \$  |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Resources of the General Fund | GF - Revenue Impact | See Below | See Below |

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill makes various changes to the state's liquor control statutes resulting in the revenue impact described below.

**Section 7** creates a daily in-state transporter liquor permit for a fee of \$150 for every vehicle or boat used in the state, resulting in a potential revenue loss to the state to the extent current annual in-state transporter licenses switch to the daily in-state transporter permit which has a lower fee.<sup>1</sup> In FY 24 there were 115 application and renewal requests for an annual in-state transporter liquor permit.

**Section 9** allows a qualified managed residential community to hold a caterer permit which allows alcohol to be served resulting in a potential revenue gain to the state to the extent additional permits are applied for. The caterer permit has an annual fee of \$1,450.

**Section 13** allows DCP to impose a fine of up to \$1,000 for certain THC-infused beverage violations resulting in a potential revenue gain

<sup>1</sup>The permit is created as an alternative to the annual in-state transporter permit which has an annual fee of \$1,250 for the first boat or vehicle and \$200 for each additional boat or vehicle.

to the state to the extent that violations occur.

The bill also makes various changes to the state's liquor control statutes that result in no fiscal impact to the state.

***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of permits requested and the number of violations.

**OLR Bill Analysis****sHB 6854****AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR REGULATION.**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS:

SUMMARY§§ 1-8, 10-12 & 14 — DAILY IN-STATE TRANSPORTER'S PERMIT

Establishes a daily in-state transporter's permit that allows the permittee to sell and serve alcoholic liquor on certain boats and livery services (e.g., limousines); allows a daily permittee to convert to an annual permit

§ 8 — GROCERY STORE BEER PERMIT

Updates the qualifications for a grocery store beer permit to specify that (1) the store must derive more than 50% of its retail sales from groceries and (2) stores that primarily sell one particular food item do not qualify for the permit

§§ 9, 16 & 17 — QUALIFIED MANAGED RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITIES

Allows a qualified managed residential community to hold a restaurant caterer permit to allow the community to serve alcohol at the daily scheduled meal on the community's premises as well as for on-site functions, occasions, or events

§ 11 — LIQUOR APPLICATIONS

Prohibits DCP from reviewing an initial permit application without all the required documentation; sets procedures for automatic withdrawal of a permit application; eliminates the general requirement for applications publishing notice in a local newspaper; requires a liquor education program to be mandatory for certain key individuals before getting a permit

§ 13 — THC-INFUSED BEVERAGE PERMIT PENALTIES

Allows DCP to impose permit penalties and fine applicants, backers, or permittees for THC-infused beverage violations

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### § 13 — SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS

Allows the DCP commissioner to enter into a settlement agreement instead of proceeding to an administrative hearing; eliminates a provision allowing DCP to require a permittee's employees to take an alcohol and training program instead of facing permit suspension or revocation

### § 15 — DCP STING OPERATIONS INVOLVING MINORS

Allows DCP to conduct, and DCP and law enforcement agencies to authorize, sting operations involving minors purchasing alcohol

### § 18 — ELIMINATION OF MUNICIPAL RECORDING REQUIREMENT FOR LIQUOR PERMITS

Eliminates the requirement for liquor permits to be filed in duplicate with the applicable town clerk

## **SUMMARY**

This bill makes various unrelated changes to the Liquor Control Act. It also makes various other minor, technical, and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025, unless otherwise stated.

## **§§ 1-8, 10-12 & 14 — DAILY IN-STATE TRANSPORTER'S PERMIT**

*Establishes a daily in-state transporter's permit that allows the permittee to sell and serve alcoholic liquor on certain boats and livery services (e.g., limousines); allows a daily permittee to convert to an annual permit*

The bill establishes a daily in-state transporter's permit as an alternative to the annual permit. Like the annual permit, the daily permittee may commercially transport alcoholic liquor as well as sell and serve alcoholic liquor (e.g., beer, wine, and spirits) on certain boats and livery services (e.g., limousines).

The bill allows the daily permittee to, with Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) approval, sell and serve alcoholic liquor for consumption on boats hired to transport passengers and motor vehicles in livery services. One permit covers all boats and vehicles under common control, direction, management, or ownership.

When applying for DCP approval, on a form and in a manner the commissioner sets, the owner must specifically identify each boat and

vehicle where alcohol sales or consumption will be available. The permit fee is \$150 for each boat or vehicle to be used during the calendar year as requested on the application. Under the bill, the commissioner may issue up to eight permits to any backer in a calendar year.

At any point in the year, the permittee may apply to DCP, as the commissioner requires, to convert to an annual permit. The annual permit's effective date is the date of the first daily permit issuance that calendar year. The annual fee is \$1,250 for the first boat or vehicle and another \$200 for each additional boat or vehicle, but the applicant can subtract any fees already paid that calendar year, except there is no rebate for fees exceeding this amount.

The bill also makes various minor, technical, and conforming changes.

#### **§ 8 — GROCERY STORE BEER PERMIT**

*Updates the qualifications for a grocery store beer permit to specify that (1) the store must derive more than 50% of its retail sales from groceries and (2) stores that primarily sell one particular food item do not qualify for the permit*

The bill updates the qualifications for a grocery store beer permit to specify that the store must derive more than 50% of its retail sales from groceries, rather than just be primarily engaged in retail sale of groceries. As under existing law, a grocery store is not required to sell any particular type of grocery item.

The bill also specifies that stores that primarily engage in the retail sale of one particular food item or items (e.g., bakery products) do not qualify for a permit. It also provides additional examples of different foods that are considered groceries (e.g., dairy products, eggs, and fruit).

The bill also makes minor and technical changes.

#### **§§ 9, 16 & 17 — QUALIFIED MANAGED RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITIES**

*Allows a qualified managed residential community to hold a restaurant caterer permit to allow the community to serve alcohol at the daily scheduled meal on the community's premises as well as for on-site functions, occasions, or events*

The bill allows a qualified managed residential community to hold a

restaurant caterer permit to allow the community to serve alcohol at the daily scheduled meals on the community's premises.

Under the bill, a qualified managed residential community is generally a facility consisting of private residential units that provide a managed group living environment that includes housing and services for individuals primarily age 55 and older. It also (1) has an adequate, suitable, and sanitary kitchen, dining room, and facilities to provide hot meals in compliance with the local department of health's regulations; (2) complies with all other local health department regulations; (3) provides daily meals in a dining room; and (4) exclusively serves meals to residents and their guests as well as community employees.

The bill allows a qualified managed residential community to serve alcoholic liquor, on the community's premises, at (1) a function, occasion, or event and (2) the daily scheduled meals. It requires the community to only sell alcohol (1) to invited individuals and (2) during the specific mealtimes scheduled on the premises. But DCP may waive these requirements permanently if alcohol is only served with daily scheduled meals on-site.

Under the bill, the permit is subject to the hours of sale established under the allowable alcohol times and hours law for on-premises alcohol consumption. By law, with minor exceptions, these allowable hours are between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m. the next morning on Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 a.m. the next morning for Friday and Saturday, and 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m. the next morning on Sunday.

Under the bill, the annual permit fee is \$1,450.

The bill also makes minor, technical, and conforming changes.

## **§ 11 — LIQUOR APPLICATIONS**

*Prohibits DCP from reviewing an initial permit application without all the required documentation; sets procedures for automatic withdrawal of a permit application; eliminates the general requirement for applications publishing notice in a local newspaper; requires a liquor education program to be mandatory for certain key individuals before getting a permit*

### ***Initial Application***

The bill prohibits DCP from reviewing an initial permit application until the applicant has submitted all documents needed to establish that state and local building, fire, zoning, and sales time requirements will be met.

Under the bill, if the applicant does not submit all of these documents within 30 days of when DCP receives the initial application, or if the documents are not fully executed by the appropriate authorities, then the application is deemed withdrawn and invalid.

### ***Newspaper Notice***

The bill eliminates the general requirement that before a permit is granted, applicants must publish local newspaper notices under certain timeframes detailing the permit type, business location, and whether they will offer live entertainment.

It makes a conforming change in eliminating (1) the publication requirement for amending the type of entertainment, and (2) a deadline in the remonstrance (i.e. objection) process that is tied to the newspaper notice (it instead ties the deadline to the date the applicant posts a placard). By law, applicants are generally required to place placards visible from the road that include certain information.

### ***Liquor Education Program***

Under the bill, beginning July 1, 2026, a liquor education program is mandatory for certain individuals. Specifically, in order to get a new permit, transfer a permit, or substitute permittees, the applicant, backers, members of these backers, and permittees must all complete a liquor education program.

The bill requires DCP to create, offer, and conduct the liquor education program in a form and manner it prescribes. The program must address (1) preventing alcohol sales to minors (under age 21) and overservice, (2) restrictions on alcoholic beverage promotions, and (3) any other topics DCP chooses.

However, DCP may waive these requirements in writing.



Additionally, those with a provisional or final permit on July 1, 2026, are not required to complete the program to receive a final or renewal permit, respectively.

### **§ 13 — THC-INFUSED BEVERAGE PERMIT PENALTIES**

*Allows DCP to impose permit penalties and fine applicants, backers, or permittees for THC-infused beverage violations*

The bill allows DCP to suspend, revoke, or refuse to grant or renew a permit for selling alcoholic liquor, or impose a fine of up to \$1,000 per violation, if the department has reasonable cause to believe that the applicant, applicant's backer, backer, or permittee has violated the laws on THC-infused beverages or their adopted regulations.

### **§ 13 — SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS**

*Allows the DCP commissioner to enter into a settlement agreement instead of proceeding to an administrative hearing; eliminates a provision allowing DCP to require a permittee's employees to take an alcohol and training program instead of facing permit suspension or revocation*

The bill allows the DCP commissioner to enter into a settlement agreement or a comparable negotiated settlement for Liquor Control Act violations instead of proceeding to an administrative hearing. The agreement may contain provisions imposing settlement fees, probation, suspension, permit conditions, training requirements, or additional security measures.

The bill also eliminates a provision that allows the commissioner to require a permittee to have his or her employees participate in an alcohol and server training program instead of suspending or revoking a permit.

### **§ 15 — DCP STING OPERATIONS INVOLVING MINORS**

*Allows DCP to conduct, and DCP and law enforcement agencies to authorize, sting operations involving minors purchasing alcohol*

Under current law, law enforcement agencies may conduct an official investigation or enforcement activity that includes inducing a minor to obtain alcohol from an alcoholic liquor permittee (i.e. a sting operation). The bill expands this authority to include DCP and allows both DCP and law enforcement agencies to authorize these operations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**§ 18 — ELIMINATION OF MUNICIPAL RECORDING REQUIREMENT FOR LIQUOR PERMITS**

*Eliminates the requirement for liquor permits to be filed in duplicate with the applicable town clerk*

The bill eliminates the requirement that before a new or renewed liquor permit is active, it be filed in duplicate with the applicable town clerk, which is generally where the business is located.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 22    Nay 0    (03/24/2025)