



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Committee Bill No. 5425

LCO No. 5124



Referred to Committee on GENERAL LAW

Introduced by:
(GL)

AN ACT CONCERNING HERITAGE RAILWAYS AND ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR.

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

1 Section 1. Section 30-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

3 For the purposes of this chapter and section 2 of this act, unless the
4 context indicates a different meaning:

5 (1) "Airline" means any (A) United States airline carrier holding a
6 certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Civil
7 Aeronautics Board under Section 401 of the Federal Aviation Act of
8 1958, as amended from time to time, or (B) foreign flag carrier holding a
9 permit under Section 402 of said act.

10 (2) "Alcohol" (A) means the product of distillation of any fermented
11 liquid that is rectified at least once and regardless of such liquid's origin,
12 and (B) includes synthetic ethyl alcohol which is considered nonpotable.

13 (3) "Alcoholic beverage" and "alcoholic liquor" include the four
14 varieties of liquor defined in subdivisions (2), (5), [(21) and] (22) and (23)

15 of this section (alcohol, beer, spirits and wine) and every liquid or solid,
16 patented or unpatented, containing alcohol, beer, spirits or wine and at
17 least one-half of one per cent alcohol by volume, and capable of being
18 consumed by a human being as a beverage. Any liquid or solid
19 containing more than one of the four varieties so defined belongs to the
20 variety which has the highest percentage of alcohol according to the
21 following order: Alcohol, spirits, wine and beer, except as provided in
22 subdivision [(22)] (23) of this section.

23 (4) "Backer" means, except in cases where the permittee is the
24 proprietor, the proprietor of any business or club, incorporated or
25 unincorporated, that is engaged in manufacturing or selling alcoholic
26 liquor and in which business a permittee is associated, whether as an
27 agent, employee or part owner.

28 (5) "Beer" means any beverage obtained by the alcoholic fermentation
29 of a decoction or infusion of barley, hops and malt in drinking water.

30 (6) "Boat" means any vessel that is (A) operating on any waterway of
31 this state, and (B) engaged in transporting passengers for hire to or from
32 any port of this state.

33 (7) "Business entity" means any incorporated or unincorporated
34 association, corporation, firm, joint stock company, limited liability
35 company, limited liability partnership, partnership, trust or other legal
36 entity.

37 (8) "Case price" means the price of a container made of cardboard,
38 wood or any other material and containing units of the same class and
39 size of alcoholic liquor. A case of alcoholic liquor, other than beer,
40 cocktails, cordials, prepared mixed drinks and wines, shall be in the
41 quantity and number, or fewer, with the permission of the
42 Commissioner of Consumer Protection, of bottles or units as follows:
43 (A) Six one thousand seven hundred fifty milliliter bottles, (B) six one
44 thousand eight hundred milliliter bottles, (C) twelve seven hundred
45 milliliter bottles, (D) twelve seven hundred twenty milliliter bottles, (E)

46 twelve seven hundred fifty milliliter bottles, (F) twelve nine hundred
47 milliliter bottles, (G) twelve one liter bottles, (H) twenty-four three
48 hundred seventy-five milliliter bottles, (I) forty-eight two hundred
49 milliliter bottles, (J) sixty one hundred milliliter bottles, or (K) one
50 hundred twenty fifty milliliter bottles, except a case of fifty milliliter
51 bottles may be in a quantity and number as originally configured,
52 packaged and sold by the manufacturer or out-of-state shipper prior to
53 shipment if the number of such bottles in such case is not greater than
54 two hundred. The commissioner shall not authorize fewer quantities or
55 numbers of bottles or units as specified in this subdivision for any one
56 person or entity more than eight times in any calendar year. For the
57 purposes of this subdivision, "class" has the same meaning as provided
58 in 27 CFR 4.21 for wine, 27 CFR 5.22 for spirits and 27 CFR 7.24 for beer.

59 (9) "Club" has the same meaning as provided in section 30-22aa.

60 (10) "Coliseum" has the same meaning as provided in section 30-33a.

61 (11) "Commission" means the Liquor Control Commission
62 established under this chapter.

63 (12) "Department" means the Department of Consumer Protection.

64 (13) "Dining room" means any room or rooms (A) located in premises
65 operating under (i) a hotel permit issued under section 30-21, (ii) a
66 restaurant permit issued under subsection (a) of section 30-22, (iii) a
67 restaurant permit for wine and beer issued under subsection (b) of
68 section 30-22, (iv) a cafe permit issued under section 30-22a, as amended
69 by this act, or (v) a cafe permit for wine, beer and cider issued under
70 section 30-22g, and (B) where meals are customarily served to any
71 member of the public who has means of payment and a proper
72 demeanor.

73 (14) "Heritage railway" means any railway service that (A) is operated
74 primarily for the purposes of historical preservation and tourism, (B)
75 has either retained or assumed (i) an antiquated appearance or

76 character, and (ii) antiquated railway operating practices, and (C)
77 utilizes antiquated railway equipment, including, but not limited to,
78 antiquated locomotives and rolling stock.

79 [(14)] (15) "Mead" means fermented honey (A) with or without
80 additions or adjunct ingredients, and (B) regardless of (i) alcohol
81 content, (ii) process, and (iii) whether such honey is carbonated,
82 sparkling or still.

83 [(15)] (16) "Minor" means any person who is younger than twenty-
84 one years of age.

85 [(16)] (17) "Noncommercial entity" means an academic institution,
86 charitable organization, government organization, nonprofit
87 organization or similar entity that is not primarily dedicated to
88 obtaining a commercial advantage or monetary compensation.

89 [(17)] (18) "Nonprofit club" has the same meaning as provided in
90 section 30-22aa.

91 [(18)] (19) (A) "Person" means an individual, including, but not
92 limited to, a partner.

93 (B) "Person" does not include any business entity.

94 [(19)] (20) (A) "Proprietor" includes all owners of a business or club,
95 incorporated or unincorporated, that is engaged in manufacturing or
96 selling alcoholic liquor, whether such owners are persons, fiduciaries,
97 business entities, stockholders of corporations or otherwise.

98 (B) "Proprietor" does not include any person who, or business entity
99 that, is merely a creditor, whether as a bond holder, franchisor, landlord
100 or note holder, of a business or club, incorporated or unincorporated,
101 that is engaged in manufacturing or selling alcoholic liquor.

102 [(20)] (21) "Restaurant" has the same meaning as provided in section
103 30-22.

104 [(21)] (22) "Spirits" means any beverage that contains alcohol
105 obtained by distillation mixed with drinkable water and other
106 substances in solution, including brandy, rum, whiskey and gin.

107 [(22)] (23) "Wine" means any alcoholic beverage obtained by
108 fermenting the natural sugar content of fruits, such as apples, grapes or
109 other agricultural products, containing such sugar, including fortified
110 wines such as port, sherry and champagne.

111 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) A short-term heritage railway
112 cafe permit shall allow the sale and public consumption of alcoholic
113 liquor in any club, parlor, dining, buffet or lounge car of a passenger
114 train operated by a heritage railway in this state in the manner set forth
115 for a cafe permit issued under subsection (h) of section 30-22a of the
116 general statutes, as amended by this act. A short-term heritage railway
117 cafe permit shall be subject to all of the privileges, obligations and
118 penalties provided for in chapter 545 of the general statutes, except such
119 permit shall be issued to a corporation instead of a person, shall be valid
120 for a period of six months and, if such permit is revoked, another
121 application may be made by the corporation for the issuance of another
122 such permit at any time after the expiration of six months following such
123 revocation. The fee for a short-term heritage railway cafe permit shall be
124 one hundred dollars. During the calendar year in which a short-term
125 heritage railway cafe permit is issued to a permittee pursuant to this
126 section, the permittee may apply to the Department of Consumer
127 Protection, in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of
128 Consumer Protection, to convert the short-term heritage railway cafe
129 permit into an annual cafe permit issued under subsection (h) of section
130 30-22a of the general statutes, as amended by this act. The effective date
131 of such annual cafe permit shall be the effective date of the short-term
132 heritage railway cafe permit issued under this section. The fee for such
133 cafe permit shall be the fee established in subsection (a) of section 30-
134 22a of the general statutes, as amended by this act, for a heritage railway
135 less the fee the applicant paid for the short-term heritage railway cafe
136 permit issued under this section.

137 Sec. 3. Section 30-12 of the general statutes is repealed and the
138 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

139 When any town has so voted upon the question of liquor permits, any
140 liquor permit granted in such town which is not in accordance with such
141 vote shall be void except manufacturer permits, [and] cafe permits
142 issued under subsections (g) and (h) of section 30-22a, as amended by
143 this act, and short-term heritage railway cafe permits issued under
144 section 2 of this act.

145 Sec. 4. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 30-14 of the general statutes
146 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
147 *1, 2025*):

148 (a) Each permit shall be a purely personal privilege that is revocable
149 in the discretion of the Department of Consumer Protection, and subject
150 to appeal, as provided in section 30-55. Except as otherwise provided in
151 the general statutes, including, but not limited to, sections 30-35, 30-37g
152 and 30-37u and section 2 of this act, each permit shall expire annually.
153 No permit shall constitute property, be subject to attachment and
154 execution or be alienable, except a permit shall descend to the estate of
155 a deceased permittee by the laws of testate or intestate succession. An
156 airline permit issued under section 30-28a, [or] a cafe permit issued
157 under subsection (h) of section 30-22a, as amended by this act, or a short-
158 term heritage railway cafe permit issued under section 2 of this act shall
159 be granted to the airline corporation, [or] railway corporation or
160 heritage railway corporation and not to any person, and the corporation
161 shall be the permittee.

162 (b) Any permit in this part, except a permit issued under sections 30-
163 35, 30-37g and 30-37u and section 2 of this act, may be issued for a
164 continuous period of not more than six consecutive calendar months, at
165 two-thirds of regular fees, but rebate of fees shall not be permitted for
166 any unexpired portion of the term of a permit revoked by reason of a
167 violation of any provision of this chapter.

168 Sec. 5. Subsections (a) to (h), inclusive, of section 30-22a of the general
169 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
170 (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

171 (a) A cafe permit shall allow the retail sale of alcoholic liquor to be
172 consumed on the premises of a cafe. The holder of a cafe permit shall
173 keep food available for sale to its customers for consumption on the
174 premises during the majority of the hours such premises are open. The
175 availability of food from outside vendors located on or near the
176 premises, who may directly deliver such food or indirectly deliver such
177 food through a third party, shall be deemed to constitute compliance
178 with such requirement. The licensed premises shall at all times comply
179 with all the regulations of the local department of health. Nothing herein
180 shall be construed to require that any food be sold or purchased with
181 any alcoholic liquor, nor shall any rule, regulation or standard be
182 promulgated or enforced to require that sales of food be substantial or
183 that the business's receipts from sales of alcoholic liquor equal any set
184 percentage of total receipts from all sales made on the licensed premises.
185 A cafe permit shall allow, with the prior approval of the Department of
186 Consumer Protection, alcoholic liquor to be served at tables in outside
187 areas that are screened or not screened from public view where
188 permitted by fire, zoning and health regulations. If not required by fire,
189 zoning or health regulations, a fence or wall enclosing such outside
190 areas shall not be required by the Department of Consumer Protection.
191 No fence or wall used to enclose such outside areas shall be less than
192 thirty inches high. Such permit shall also authorize the sale at retail from
193 the premises of sealed containers, supplied by the permittee, of draught
194 beer for consumption off the premises. Such sales shall be conducted
195 only during the hours a package store is permitted to sell alcoholic
196 liquor under the provisions of subsection (d) of section 30-91, as
197 amended by this act. Not more than four liters of such beer shall be sold
198 to any person on any day on which the sale of alcoholic liquor is
199 authorized under the provisions of subsection (d) of section 30-91, as
200 amended by this act. The annual fee for a cafe permit shall be two
201 thousand dollars, except the annual fee for a cafe permit for (1) a prior

202 holder of a tavern permit issued under section 30-26 shall be eight
203 hundred dollars for the first year, twelve hundred dollars for the second
204 year, one thousand six hundred dollars for the third year and two
205 thousand dollars for each year thereafter, and (2) a heritage railway shall
206 be two hundred dollars.

207 (b) (1) A cafe patron may remove one unsealed bottle of wine for off-
208 premises consumption, provided the patron has purchased a full course
209 meal and consumed a portion of the wine with such meal on the cafe
210 premises. For purposes of this section, "full course meal" means a
211 diversified selection of food which (A) ordinarily cannot be consumed
212 without the use of tableware, and (B) cannot be conveniently consumed
213 while standing or walking.

214 (2) A partially consumed bottle of wine that is to be removed from
215 the premises under this subsection shall be securely sealed and placed
216 in a bag by the permittee or the permittee's agent or employee prior to
217 removal from the premises.

218 (c) As used in this section, "cafe" means space in a suitable and
219 permanent building, vessel or structure, kept, used, maintained,
220 advertised and held out to the public to be a place where alcoholic liquor
221 and food is served for sale at retail for consumption on the premises but
222 which does not necessarily serve hot meals; [it] such premises shall have
223 no sleeping accommodations for the public and need not necessarily
224 have a kitchen or dining room but shall have employed therein at all
225 times an adequate number of employees.

226 (d) For purposes of compliance with this section, "cafe" includes any
227 location in a passenger terminal complex of any airport, as defined in
228 section 15-34, or any location adjacent to and attached by common
229 partition to such complex, which is open to the public or to airline club
230 members or their guests, with or without the sale of food, for
231 consumption on the premises.

232 (e) For purposes of compliance with this section, "cafe" includes all of

233 the land and buildings in which the principal business conducted is
234 racing or jai alai exhibitions, with pari-mutuel betting licensed by the
235 Department of Consumer Protection.

236 (f) For purposes of compliance with this section, "cafe" includes any
237 commercial bowling establishment containing ten or more lanes, or any
238 commercial racquetball or tennis facility containing five or more courts,
239 with or without food, for consumption on the premises.

240 (g) For purposes of compliance with this section, "cafe" includes the
241 premises and grounds of a golf country club, defined as: (1) An
242 association of persons, whether incorporated or unincorporated, that
243 has been in existence as a bona fide organization for at least one year
244 prior to applying for a permit issued as provided by this chapter, or that
245 at the time of applying for the permit is in existence as a bona fide
246 organization and has not less than twenty members who have paid
247 annual membership fees or dues and have signed affidavits of their
248 intention to remain members of the association for not less than one year
249 after that time, not including associations organized for any commercial
250 or business purpose the object of which is money profit, which
251 maintains a golf course of not less than eighteen holes and a course
252 length of at least fifty-five hundred yards and a club house with facilities
253 that include locker rooms, a dining room and a lounge; provided the
254 club shall file with the department, upon request, within ten days of
255 February first in each year, a list of the names and residences of its
256 members, and shall similarly file, within ten days of the election of any
257 additional member, his name and address, and provided its aggregate
258 annual membership fees or dues and other income, exclusive of any
259 proceeds of the sale of alcoholic liquor, shall be sufficient to defray the
260 annual rental of its leased or rented premises, or, if the premises are
261 owned by the club, shall be sufficient to meet the taxes, insurance and
262 repairs and the interest on any mortgage thereof; and provided, further,
263 its affairs and management shall be conducted by a board of directors,
264 executive committee or similar body chosen by the members at their
265 annual meeting, and no member or any officer, agent or employee of the

266 club shall be paid or, directly or indirectly, shall receive in the form of
267 salary or other compensation any profits from the disposition or sale of
268 alcoholic liquor to the club or to the members of the club or its guests
269 introduced by members, beyond the amount of such salary as may be
270 fixed and voted at annual meetings by the members or by its directors
271 or other governing body and as reported by the club to the department,
272 within three months after the annual meeting, and as is, in the judgment
273 of the department, reasonable and proper compensation for the services
274 of such member, officer, agent or employee; or (2) an association of
275 persons, whether incorporated or unincorporated, which has been in
276 existence as a bona fide organization for at least one year prior to
277 applying for a permit issued as provided by this chapter, or which at the
278 time of applying for the permit is in existence as a bona fide organization
279 and has not less than twenty members who have paid annual
280 membership fees or dues and is directly or indirectly wholly owned by
281 a corporation which is and continues to be nonprofit and to which the
282 Internal Revenue Service has issued a ruling classifying it as an exempt
283 organization under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986,
284 or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United
285 States, as amended from time to time, which maintains a golf course of
286 not less than eighteen holes and a course length of at least fifty-five
287 hundred yards and a club house with facilities which include locker
288 rooms, a dining room and a lounge; provided the club shall file with the
289 department, upon request, within ten days of February first in each year,
290 a list of the names and residences of its members, and shall similarly file,
291 within ten days of the admission of any additional member, his name
292 and address. The nonprofit corporation shall demonstrate to the
293 commission an ability to pay any operating deficit of the golf country
294 club, exclusive of any proceeds of the sale of alcoholic liquor; and
295 provided, further, the affairs and the management of the nonprofit
296 corporation are conducted by a board of directors, executive committee
297 or similar body at least forty per cent of the members of which are
298 chosen by the members of the nonprofit corporation at their annual
299 meeting and the balance of the members of the board of directors are

300 professionals chosen for their knowledge of the business of the
301 nonprofit corporation, and all moneys earned by the golf country club
302 shall be used to defray its expenses of operation or for charitable
303 purposes, and any balance shall be directly or indirectly remitted to the
304 nonprofit corporation.

305 (h) For purposes of compliance with this section, "cafe" includes any
306 corporation that operates a railway or heritage railway in this state or
307 that operates club, parlor, dining, buffet or lounge cars upon the lines of
308 any such railway or heritage railway in this state. [It] The permit shall
309 allow the sale and public consumption of alcoholic liquor in any club,
310 parlor, dining, buffet or lounge car of a passenger train operated in this
311 state. [It] The permit shall be subject to all the privileges, obligations and
312 penalties provided for in this chapter except [that it] such permit shall
313 be issued to a corporation instead of to a person and, if [it] such permit
314 is revoked, another application may be made by the corporation for the
315 issuance of another [railroad] permit at any time after the expiration of
316 one year after such revocation.

317 Sec. 6. Section 30-38 of the general statutes is repealed and the
318 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

319 Each permit granted under the provisions of sections 30-16, 30-17, 30-
320 20, 30-21, 30-21b, 30-22, 30-22a, as amended by this act, 30-22g, 30-22aa,
321 30-28a, 30-33a [,] and 30-36 [,] and section 2 of this act shall also, under
322 the regulations of the Department of Consumer Protection, allow the
323 storage, on the premises and at one other secure location registered with
324 and approved by the department, of sufficient quantities of alcoholic
325 liquor respectively allowed to be sold under such permits as may be
326 necessary for the business conducted by the respective permittees or
327 their backers; but no such permit shall be granted under the provisions
328 of section 30-16 or 30-17 unless such storage facilities are provided and
329 the place of storage receives the approval of the department as to
330 suitability, and thereafter no place of storage shall be changed nor any
331 new place of storage utilized without the approval of the department.

332 Sec. 7. Subsection (b) of section 30-39 of the general statutes is
333 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
334 *2025*):

335 (b) (1) Any person desiring a liquor permit or a renewal of such a
336 permit shall make an affirmed application therefor to the Department of
337 Consumer Protection, upon forms to be furnished by the department,
338 showing the name and address of the applicant and of the applicant's
339 backer, if any, the location of the club or place of business which is to be
340 operated under such permit and a financial statement setting forth all
341 elements and details of any business transactions connected with the
342 application. Such application shall include a detailed description of the
343 type of live entertainment that is to be provided. A club or place of
344 business shall be exempt from providing such detailed description if the
345 club or place of business (A) was issued a liquor permit prior to October
346 1, 1993, and (B) has not altered the type of entertainment provided. The
347 application shall also indicate any crimes of which the applicant or the
348 applicant's backer may have been convicted. Applicants shall submit
349 documents, only upon initial application, sufficient to establish that
350 state and local building, fire and zoning requirements and local
351 ordinances concerning hours and days of sale will be met, except that
352 local building and zoning requirements and local ordinances
353 concerning hours and days of sale shall not apply to a cafe permit issued
354 under subsection (d) or (h) of section 30-22a, as amended by this act, or
355 a short-term heritage railway cafe permit issued under section 2 of this
356 act. The State Fire Marshal or the marshal's certified designee shall be
357 responsible for approving compliance with the State Fire Code at
358 Bradley International Airport. Any person desiring a permit provided
359 for in section 30-33b shall file a copy of such person's license with such
360 application if such license was issued by the Department of Consumer
361 Protection. The department may, at its discretion, conduct an
362 investigation to determine (i) whether a permit shall be issued to an
363 applicant or the applicant's backer, or (ii) the suitability of the proposed
364 permit premises. Completion of an inspection pursuant to subsection (f)
365 of section 29-305 shall not be deemed to constitute a precondition to

366 renewal of a permit that is subject to subsection (f) of section 29-305.

367 (2) The applicant shall pay to the department a nonrefundable
368 application fee, which fee shall be in addition to the fees prescribed in
369 this chapter for the permit sought. An application fee shall not be
370 charged for an application to renew a permit. The application fee shall
371 be in the amount of ten dollars for the filing of each application for a
372 permit by a nonprofit golf tournament permit under section 30-37g or a
373 temporary liquor permit for a noncommercial entity under section 30-
374 35; and in the amount of one hundred dollars for the filing of an initial
375 application for all other permits. Any permit issued shall be valid only
376 for the purposes and activities described in the application.

377 (3) The applicant, immediately after filing an application, shall give
378 notice thereof, with the name and residence of the permittee, the type of
379 permit applied for and the location of the place of business for which
380 such permit is to be issued and the type of live entertainment to be
381 provided, all in a form prescribed by the department, by publishing the
382 same in a newspaper having a circulation in the town in which the place
383 of business to be operated under such permit is to be located, at least
384 once a week for two successive weeks, the first publication to be not
385 more than seven days after the filing date of the application and the last
386 publication not more than fourteen days after the filing date of the
387 application. The applicant shall affix, and maintain in a legible condition
388 upon the outer door of the building wherein such place of business is to
389 be located and clearly visible from the public highway, the placard
390 provided by the department, not later than the day following the receipt
391 of the placard by the applicant. If such outer door of such premises is so
392 far from the public highway that such placard is not clearly visible as
393 provided, the department shall direct a suitable method to notify the
394 public of such application. When an application is filed for any type of
395 permit for a building that has not been constructed, such applicant shall
396 erect and maintain in a legible condition a sign not less than six feet by
397 four feet upon the site where such place of business is to be located,
398 instead of such placard upon the outer door of the building. The sign

399 shall set forth the type of permit applied for and the name of the
400 proposed permittee, shall be clearly visible from the public highway and
401 shall be so erected not later than the day following the receipt of the
402 placard. Such applicant shall make a return to the department, under
403 oath, of compliance with the foregoing requirements, in such form as
404 the department may determine, but the department may require any
405 additional proof of such compliance. Upon receipt of evidence of such
406 compliance, the department may hold a hearing as to the suitability of
407 the proposed location. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply
408 to applications for (A) airline permits issued under section 30-28a, (B)
409 temporary liquor permits for noncommercial entities issued under
410 section 30-35, (C) concession permits issued under section 30-33, (D)
411 military permits issued under section 30-34, (E) cafe permits issued
412 under subsection (h) of section 30-22a, as amended by this act, (F) short-
413 term heritage railway cafe permits issued under section 2 of this act, (G)
414 warehouse permits issued under section 30-32, [(G)] (H) broker's
415 permits issued under section 30-30, [(H)] (I) out-of-state shipper's
416 permits for alcoholic liquor issued under section 30-18, [(I)] (J) out-of-
417 state shipper's permits for beer issued under section 30-19, [(J)] (K)
418 coliseum permits issued under section 30-33a, [(K)] (L) nonprofit golf
419 tournament permits issued under section 30-37g, [(L)] (M) Connecticut
420 craft cafe permits issued under section 30-22d to permittees who held a
421 manufacturer permit for a brew pub or a manufacturer permit for beer
422 issued under subsection (b) of section 30-16 and a brew pub before July
423 1, 2020, [(M)] (N) off-site farm winery sales and wine, cider and mead
424 tasting permits issued under section 30-16a, [(N)] (O) out-of-state
425 retailer shipper's permits for wine issued under section 30-18a, [(O)] (P)
426 out-of-state winery shipper's permits for wine issued under section 30-
427 18a, [(P)] (Q) in-state transporter's permits for alcoholic liquor issued
428 under section 30-19f, including, but not limited to, boats operating
429 under such permits, [(Q)] (R) seasonal outdoor open-air permits issued
430 under section 30-22e, [(R)] (S) festival permits issued under section 30-
431 37t, [(S)] (T) temporary auction permits issued under section 30-37u,
432 [(T)] (U) outdoor open-air permits issued under section 30-22f, and [(U)]

433 ~~(V)~~ renewals of any permit described in subparagraphs (A) to [(T)] (U),
434 inclusive, of this subdivision, if applicable. The provisions of this
435 subdivision regarding publication and placard display shall also be
436 required of any applicant who seeks to amend the type of entertainment
437 either upon filing of a renewal application or upon requesting
438 permission of the department in a form that requires the approval of the
439 municipal zoning official.

440 (4) In any case in which a permit has been issued to a partnership, if
441 one or more of the partners dies or retires, the remaining partner or
442 partners need not file a new application for the unexpired portion of the
443 current permit, and no additional fee for such unexpired portion shall
444 be required. Notice of any such change shall be given to the department
445 and the permit shall be endorsed to show correct ownership. When any
446 partnership changes by reason of the addition of one or more persons, a
447 new application with new fees shall be required.

448 Sec. 8. Section 30-45 of the general statutes is repealed and the
449 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

450 The Department of Consumer Protection shall refuse permits for the
451 sale of alcoholic liquor to the following persons: (1) Any state marshal,
452 judicial marshal, judge of any court, prosecuting officer or member of
453 any police force; (2) any minor; (3) any constable who (A) performs
454 criminal law enforcement duties and is considered a peace officer by
455 town ordinance pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) of section
456 54-1f, or (B) is certified under the provisions of sections 7-294a to 7-294e,
457 inclusive, and performs criminal law enforcement duties pursuant to
458 the provisions of subsection (c) of section 54-1f; and (4) any special
459 constable appointed pursuant to section 7-92. This section shall not
460 apply to any out-of-state shipper's permit issued under section 30-18,
461 30-18a or 30-19, any cafe permit issued under section 30-22a, as
462 amended by this act, any cafe permit for wine, beer and cider issued
463 under section 30-22g, any boat operating under any in-state
464 transporter's permit issued under section 30-19f, [or] any airline permit

465 issued under section 30-28a or any short-term heritage railway cafe
466 permit issued under section 2 of this act. As used in this section, "minor"
467 means a minor, as defined in section 1-1d or as defined in section 30-1,
468 as amended by this act, whichever age is older.

469 Sec. 9. Subsection (a) of section 30-48 of the general statutes is
470 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
471 *2025*):

472 (a) No backer or permittee of one permit class shall be a backer or
473 permittee of any other permit class except in the case of airline permits
474 issued under section 30-28a, boats operating under in-state transporter's
475 permits issued under section 30-19f, [and] cafe permits issued under
476 subsections (d) and (h) of section 30-22a, as amended by this act, and
477 short-term heritage railway cafe permits issued under section 2 of this
478 act, except that: (1) A backer of a hotel permit issued under section 30-
479 21 or a restaurant permit issued under section 30-22 may be a backer of
480 both such classes; (2) a holder or backer of a restaurant permit issued
481 under section 30-22, a cafe permit issued under subsection (a) of section
482 30-22a, as amended by this act, or a cafe permit for wine, beer and cider
483 issued under section 30-22g may be a holder or backer of any other or
484 all of such classes; (3) a holder or backer of a restaurant permit issued
485 under section 30-22 may be a holder or backer of a cafe permit issued
486 under subsection (f) of section 30-22a, as amended by this act; (4) a
487 backer of a restaurant permit issued under section 30-22 may be a backer
488 of a coliseum permit issued under section 30-33a when such restaurant
489 is within a coliseum; (5) a backer of a hotel permit issued under section
490 30-21 may be a backer of a coliseum permit issued under section 30-33a;
491 (6) a backer of a grocery store beer permit issued under subsection (c) of
492 section 30-20 may be (A) a backer of a package store permit issued under
493 subsection (b) of section 30-20 if such was the case on or before May 1,
494 1996, and (B) a backer of a restaurant permit issued under section 30-22,
495 provided the restaurant permit premises do not abut or share the same
496 space as the grocery store beer permit premises; (7) a backer of a cafe
497 permit issued under subsection (j) of section 30-22a, may be a backer of

498 a nonprofit theater permit issued under section 30-35a; (8) a backer of a
499 nonprofit theater permit issued under section 30-35a may be a holder or
500 backer of a hotel permit issued under section 30-21 or a coliseum permit
501 issued under section 30-33a; (9) a backer of a concession permit issued
502 under section 30-33 may be a backer of a coliseum permit issued under
503 section 30-33a; (10) a holder of an out-of-state winery shipper's permit
504 for wine issued under section 30-18a may be a holder of an in-state
505 transporter's permit issued under section 30-19f; (11) a holder of an out-
506 of-state shipper's permit for alcoholic liquor issued under section 30-18
507 or an out-of-state winery shipper's permit for wine issued under section
508 30-18a may be a holder of an in-state transporter's permit issued under
509 section 30-19f; (12) a holder of a manufacturer permit for a farm winery
510 issued under subsection (c) of section 30-16 or a manufacturer permit
511 for wine, cider and mead issued under subsection (d) of section 30-16
512 may be a holder of an in-state transporter's permit issued under section
513 30-19f, an off-site farm winery sales and tasting permit issued under
514 section 30-16a or any combination of such permits; (13) the holder of a
515 manufacturer permit for spirits, beer, a farm winery or wine, cider and
516 mead, issued under subsection (a), (b), (c) or (d), respectively, of section
517 30-16 may be a holder of a Connecticut craft cafe permit issued under
518 section 30-22d, a restaurant permit or a restaurant permit for wine and
519 beer issued under section 30-22 or a farmers' market sales permit issued
520 under section 30-37o; (14) the holder of a restaurant permit issued under
521 section 30-22, a cafe permit issued under section 30-22a, as amended by
522 this act, a cafe permit for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-
523 22g or an in-state transporter's permit issued under section 30-19f may
524 be the holder of a seasonal outdoor open-air permit issued under section
525 30-22e or an outdoor open-air permit issued under section 30-22f; (15)
526 the holder of a festival permit issued under section 30-37t may be the
527 holder or backer of one or more of such other classes; (16) the holder of
528 an out-of-state shipper's permit for alcoholic liquor other than beer
529 issued under section 30-18, an out-of-state winery shipper's permit for
530 wine issued under section 30-18a or an out-of-state shipper's permit for
531 beer issued under section 30-19 may be the holder of an out-of-state

532 retailer shipper's permit for wine issued under section 30-18a; and (17)
533 the holder of a restaurant permit issued under section 30-22 may be a
534 holder of a Connecticut craft cafe permit issued under section 30-22d,
535 provided the permit premises are located at two different addresses.
536 Any person may be a permittee of more than one permit. No holder of
537 a manufacturer permit for beer issued under subsection (b) of section
538 30-16 and no spouse or child of such holder may be a holder or backer
539 of more than three restaurant permits issued under section 30-22, cafe
540 permits issued under section 30-22a, as amended by this act, or cafe
541 permits for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-22g.

542 Sec. 10. Section 30-53 of the general statutes is repealed and the
543 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

544 Each permit granted or renewed by the Department of Consumer
545 Protection shall be of no effect until a duplicate thereof has been filed by
546 the permittee with the town clerk of the town within which the club or
547 place of business described in such permit is situated; provided the
548 place of filing for (1) a cafe permit issued under subsection (h) of section
549 30-22a, as amended by this act, a short-term heritage railway cafe permit
550 issued under section 2 of this act or a boat operating under an in-state
551 transporter's permit issued under section 30-19f, shall be the office of the
552 town clerk of the town of New Haven, and (2) an airline permit issued
553 under section 30-28a shall be the office of the town clerk of the town of
554 Hartford. The fee for such filing shall be twenty dollars.

555 Sec. 11. Section 30-54 of the general statutes is repealed and the
556 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

557 Every permittee, other than a corporation holding a cafe permit
558 issued under subsection (h) of section 30-22a, as amended by this act, a
559 short-term heritage railway cafe permit issued under section 2 of this act
560 or an airline permit issued under section 30-28a, shall cause such
561 permittee's permit or a duplicate thereof to be framed and hung in plain
562 view in a conspicuous place in any room where the sales so permitted
563 are to be carried on.

564 Sec. 12. Subsections (a) to (e), inclusive, of section 30-91 of the general
565 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
566 (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

567 (a) The sale, dispensing, consumption or presence in glasses or other
568 receptacles suitable to allow for the consumption of alcoholic liquor by
569 an individual in places operating under hotel permits issued under
570 section 30-21, restaurant permits issued under section 30-22, cafe
571 permits issued under section 30-22a, as amended by this act, cafe
572 permits for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-22g, short-term
573 heritage railway cafe permits issued under section 2 of this act,
574 Connecticut craft cafe permits issued under section 30-22d, club permits
575 issued under section 30-22aa, restaurant permits for catering
576 establishments issued under section 30-22b, coliseum permits issued
577 under section 30-33a, temporary liquor permits for noncommercial
578 entities issued under section 30-35, nonprofit public museum permits
579 issued under section 30-37a, manufacturer permits for beer, a farm
580 winery or wine, cider and mead issued under subsection (b), (c) or (d),
581 respectively, of section 30-16, casino permits issued under section 30-
582 37k and caterer liquor permits issued under section 30-37j shall be
583 unlawful on: (1) Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
584 between the hours of one o'clock a.m. and nine o'clock a.m.; (2) Saturday
585 between the hours of two o'clock a.m. and nine o'clock a.m.; (3) Sunday
586 between the hours of two o'clock a.m. and ten o'clock a.m.; (4)
587 Christmas, except (A) for alcoholic liquor that is served where food is
588 also available during the hours otherwise permitted by this section for
589 the day on which Christmas falls, and (B) by casino permittees at
590 casinos, as defined in section 30-37k; and (5) January first between the
591 hours of three o'clock a.m. and nine o'clock a.m., except that on any
592 Sunday that is January first the prohibitions of this section shall be
593 between the hours of three o'clock a.m. and ten o'clock a.m.

594 (b) Any town may, by vote of a town meeting or by ordinance, reduce
595 the number of hours during which sales under subsection (a) of this
596 section, except sales under a cafe permit issued under subsection (d) of

597 section 30-22a, as amended by this act, shall be permissible. In all cases
598 when a town, either by vote of a town meeting or by ordinance, has
599 acted on the sale of alcoholic liquor or the reduction of the number of
600 hours when such sale is permissible, such action shall become effective
601 on the first day of the month succeeding such action and no further
602 action shall be taken until at least one year has elapsed since the
603 previous action was taken.

604 (c) Notwithstanding any provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this
605 section, such sale, dispensing, consumption or presence in glasses in
606 places operating under a cafe permit issued under subsection (f) of
607 section 30-22a, as amended by this act, shall be unlawful before eleven
608 o'clock a.m. on any day, except in that portion of the permit premises
609 which is located in a separate room or rooms entry to which, from the
610 bowling lane area of the establishment, is by means of a door or doors
611 which shall remain closed at all times except to permit entrance and
612 egress to and from the lane area. Any alcoholic liquor sold or dispensed
613 in a place operating under a cafe permit issued under subsection (f) of
614 section 30-22a, as amended by this act, shall be served in containers such
615 as, but not limited to, plastic or glass. Any town may, by vote of a town
616 meeting or by ordinance, reduce the number of hours during which
617 sales under this subsection shall be permissible.

618 (d) The sale or dispensing of alcoholic liquor for off-premises
619 consumption in places operating under package store permits issued
620 under subsection (b) of section 30-20, druggist permits issued under
621 section 30-36, manufacturer permits issued under section 30-16, grocery
622 store beer permits issued under subsection (c) of section 30-20, religious
623 wine retailer permits issued under section 30-37s or temporary auction
624 permits issued under section 30-37u shall be unlawful on Thanksgiving
625 Day, New Year's Day and Christmas; and such sale or dispensing of
626 alcoholic liquor for off-premises consumption in places operating under
627 package store permits, druggist permits, manufacturer permits for beer,
628 grocery store beer permits, religious wine retailer permits and
629 temporary auction permits shall be unlawful on Sunday before ten

630 o'clock a.m. and after six o'clock p.m. and on any other day before eight
631 o'clock a.m. and after ten o'clock p.m. Any town may, by a vote of a town
632 meeting or by ordinance, reduce the number of hours during which
633 such sale shall be permissible.

634 (e) (1) In the case of any premises operating under a cafe permit
635 issued under subsection (c) of section 30-22a, as amended by this act, a
636 cafe permit for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-22g or a
637 Connecticut craft cafe permit issued under section 30-22d, and wherein,
638 under the provisions of this section, the sale of alcoholic liquor is
639 forbidden on certain days or hours of the day, or during the period
640 when such permit is suspended, it shall likewise be unlawful to keep
641 such premises open to, or permit such premises to be occupied by, the
642 public on such days or hours.

643 (2) In the case of any premises operating under a cafe permit issued
644 under section 30-22a, as amended by this act, [or] a cafe permit for wine,
645 beer and cider issued under section 30-22g or a short-term heritage
646 railway cafe permit issued under section 2 of this act, it shall be unlawful
647 to keep such premises open to, or permit such premises to be occupied
648 by, the public between the hours of one o'clock a.m. and six o'clock a.m.
649 on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and between
650 the hours of two o'clock a.m. and six o'clock a.m. on Saturday and
651 Sunday or during any period of time when such permit is suspended,
652 provided the sale, dispensing or consumption of alcohol on such
653 premises operating under such cafe permit or cafe permit for wine, beer
654 and cider shall be prohibited beyond the hours authorized for the sale,
655 dispensing or consumption of alcohol for such premises under this
656 section.

657 (3) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, in the case of any
658 premises operating under a cafe permit issued under section 30-22a, as
659 amended by this act, [or] a cafe permit for wine, beer and cider issued
660 under section 30-22g or a short-term heritage railway cafe permit issued
661 under section 2 of this act, it shall be lawful for such premises to be open

662 to, or be occupied by, the public when such premises is being used as a
 663 site for film, television, video or digital production eligible for a film
 664 production tax credit pursuant to section 12-217jj, provided the sale,
 665 dispensing or consumption of alcohol on such premises operating under
 666 such cafe permit or cafe permit for wine, beer and cider shall be
 667 prohibited beyond the hours authorized for the sale, dispensing or
 668 consumption of alcohol for such premises under this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	30-1
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	30-12
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	30-14(a) and (b)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	30-22a(a) to (h)
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	30-38
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	30-39(b)
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	30-45
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	30-48(a)
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	30-53
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	30-54
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	30-91(a) to (e)

Statement of Purpose:

To amend the Liquor Control Act by (1) defining "heritage railway", (2) establishing a short-term heritage railway cafe permit, and (3) establishing a reduced fee for cafe permits issued to heritage railways.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. PISCOPO, 76th Dist.; SEN. MARTIN, 31st Dist.

H.B. 5425

