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Public Act 101-0631

HB2682 Enrolled

AN ACT concerning revenue.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Liquor Control Act of 1934 is amended by changing Sections 5-5, 6-1, 6-5, and 6-27.1 and by adding Sections 5-7 and 6-28.8 as follows:

(235 ILCS 5/5-5)

Sec. 5-5. Late filing fees. In the event that a liquor license holder fails to submit a license renewal application to the Commission before or on the expiration date of the current license, the licensee will be assessed a late filing fee of $25. Late applications and instruments of payment will be returned to the licensee. Late filing fees will be in addition to any fines or penalties ordered for operating without a valid license.

Late filing fees shall not apply to a liquor license holder whose business or business operations have been suspended in any capacity due to any executive order issued on or after March 16, 2020 or any subsequent rule established by the Department of Public Health or any other agency of the State as a result of COVID-19. The late filing fee waiver shall remain in effect for 6 months after whichever of the following dates occurs the latest:

(1) the day on which the region in which the liquor licensee is located enters Phase 4 of the Governor's Restore Illinois Plan as issued on May 5, 2020;

(2) the day after the expiration of the latest executive order that limits or interrupts the business or business operations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; or

(3) the day after the expiration of any rules established by the Department of Public Health or any other agency of the State that limit or interrupt the business or business operations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

(Source: P.A. 88-91.)

(235 ILCS 5/5-7 new)

Sec. 5-7. Temporary liquor license fee deferral. A liquor license holder whose business or business operations have been suspended in any capacity due to any executive order issued on or after March 16, 2020 or any subsequent rule established by the Department of Public Health or any other agency of the State as a result of COVID-19 shall be allowed to defer liquor license fees under this Section. The liquor license holder shall be allowed to defer the payment of liquor license fees for 6 months after whichever of the following dates occurs the latest:

(1) the day on which the region in which the liquor licensee is located enters Phase 4 of the Governor's Restore Illinois Plan as issued on May 5, 2020;

(2) the day after the expiration of the latest executive order that limits or interrupts the business or business operations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; or

(3) the day after the expiration of any rules established by the Department of Public Health or any other agency of the State that limit or interrupt the business or business operations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

(235 ILCS 5/6-1) (from Ch. 43, par. 119)

Sec. 6-1. Privilege granted by license; nature as to property; transferability; tax delinquencies. A license shall be purely a personal privilege, good for not to exceed one year after issuance, except a non-beverage user's license, unless sooner revoked as in this Act provided, and shall not constitute property, nor shall it be subject to attachment, garnishment or execution, nor shall it be alienable or

transferable, voluntarily or involuntarily, or subject to being encumbered or hypothecated. Such license shall not descend by the laws of testate or intestate devolution, but it shall cease upon the death of the licensee, provided that executors or administrators of the estate of any deceased licensee, and the trustee of any insolvent or bankrupt licensee, when such estate consists in part of alcoholic liquor, may continue the business of the sale or manufacture of alcoholic liquor under order of the appropriate court, and may exercise the privileges of the deceased or insolvent or bankrupt licensee after the death of such decedent, or such insolvency or bankruptcy until the expiration of such license but not longer than six months after the death, bankruptcy or insolvency of such licensee. Except in the case of a non-beverage user's license, a refund shall be made of that portion of the license fees paid for any period in which the licensee shall be prevented from operating under such license in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph.

Any licensee may renew his license at the expiration thereof, provided he is then qualified to receive a license and the premises for which such renewal license is sought are suitable for such purpose; and provided further that the renewal privilege herein provided for shall not be construed as a vested right which shall in any case prevent the city council or village president and board of trustees or county board, as the case may be, from decreasing the number of licenses to be issued within its jurisdiction. No retailer's license shall be renewed if the Department of Revenue has reported to the Illinois Liquor Control Commission that such retailer is delinquent in filing any required tax returns or paying any amounts owed to the State of Illinois until the applicant is issued a certificate by the Department of Revenue stating that all delinquent returns or amounts owed have been paid by guaranteed remittance or the payment agreement to pay all amounts owed has been accepted by the Department. No retailer's license issued by a local liquor control commissioner shall be renewed unless the applicant provides documentation that any tax owed to (i) the municipality in which the applicant is located (in the case of a license issued by the mayor or president of the board of trustees of a city, village or incorporated town acting as local liquor control commissioner) or (ii) the county in which the applicant is located (in the case of a license issued by the president or chairman of a county board acting as local liquor control commissioner) by the applicant has been satisfied by payment in the form of a cashier's check, certified check, money order, or cash.

For a liquor license holder whose business or business operations have been suspended in any capacity due to any executive order issued on or after March 16, 2020 or any subsequent rule established by the Department of Public Health or any other agency of the State as a result of COVID-19, renewal of the license shall be automatically approved and the license shall be extended without limitation for 120 days after whichever of the following dates occurs the latest:

(1) the day on which the region in which the liquor licensee is located enters Phase 4 of the Governor's Restore Illinois Plan as issued on May 5, 2020;

(2) the day after the expiration of the latest executive order that limits or interrupts the business or business operations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; or

(3) the day after the expiration of any rules established by the Department of Public Health or any other agency of the State that limit or interrupt the business or business operations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The renewal shall be based upon the most recent liquor license application or application for renewal that was approved and received by the State Commission prior to the limitations or interruptions implemented by the Executive Order on March 16, 2020.

A negotiable instrument received as payment for a license fee, transfer fee, late fee, offer in compromise, pre-disciplinary conference settlement, or fine imposed by order that is dishonored on presentation shall not be considered payment and shall be cause for disciplinary action.

(Source: P.A. 91-357, eff. 7-29-99.)

(235 ILCS 5/6-5) (from Ch. 43, par. 122)

Sec. 6-5. Except as otherwise provided in this Section, it is unlawful for any person having a retailer's license or any officer, associate, member, representative or agent of such licensee to accept, receive or borrow money, or anything else of value, or accept or receive credit (other than merchandising credit in the ordinary course of business for a period not to exceed 30 days) directly or indirectly from any manufacturer, importing distributor or distributor of alcoholic liquor, or from any person connected with or in any way representing, or from any member of the family of, such manufacturer, importing distributor, distributor or wholesaler, or from any stockholders in any corporation engaged in manufacturing, distributing or wholesaling of such liquor, or from any officer, manager, agent or representative of said manufacturer. Except as provided below, it is unlawful for any manufacturer or distributor or importing distributor to give or lend money or anything of value, or otherwise loan or extend credit (except such merchandising credit) directly or indirectly to any retail licensee or to the manager, representative, agent, officer or director of such licensee. A manufacturer, distributor or importing distributor may furnish free advertising, posters, signs, brochures, hand-outs, or other promotional devices or materials to any unit of government owning or operating any auditorium, exhibition hall, recreation facility or other similar facility holding a retailer's license, provided that the primary purpose of such promotional devices or materials is to promote public events being held at such facility. A unit of government owning or operating such a facility holding a retailer's license may accept such promotional devices or materials designed primarily to promote public events held at the facility. No retail licensee delinquent beyond the 30 day period specified in this Section shall solicit, accept or receive credit, purchase or acquire alcoholic liquors, directly or indirectly from any other licensee, and no manufacturer, distributor or importing distributor shall knowingly grant or extend credit, sell, furnish or supply alcoholic liquors to any such delinquent retail licensee; provided that the purchase price of all beer sold to a retail licensee shall be paid by the retail licensee in cash on or before delivery of the beer, and unless the purchase price payable by a retail licensee for beer sold to him in returnable bottles shall expressly include a charge for the bottles and cases, the retail licensee shall, on or before delivery of such beer, pay the seller in cash a deposit in an amount not less than the deposit required to be paid by the distributor to the brewer; but where the brewer sells direct to the retailer, the deposit shall be an amount no less than that required by the brewer from his own distributors; and provided further, that in no instance shall this deposit be less than 50 cents for each case of beer in pint or smaller bottles and 60 cents for each case of beer in quart or half-gallon bottles; and provided further, that the purchase price of all beer sold to an importing distributor or distributor shall be paid by such importing distributor or distributor in cash on or before the 15th day (Sundays and holidays excepted) after delivery of such beer to such purchaser; and unless the purchase price payable by such importing distributor or distributor for beer

sold in returnable bottles and cases shall expressly include a charge for the bottles and cases, such importing distributor or distributor shall, on or before the 15th day (Sundays and holidays excepted) after delivery of such beer to such purchaser, pay the seller in cash a required amount as a deposit to assure the return of such bottles and cases. Nothing herein contained shall prohibit any licensee from crediting or refunding to a purchaser the actual amount of money paid for bottles, cases, kegs or barrels returned by the purchaser to the seller or paid by the purchaser as a deposit on bottles, cases, kegs or barrels, when such containers or packages are returned to the seller. Nothing herein contained shall prohibit any manufacturer, importing distributor or distributor from extending usual and customary credit for alcoholic liquor sold to customers or purchasers who live in or maintain places of business outside of this State when such alcoholic liquor is actually transported and delivered to such points outside of this State.

A manufacturer, distributor, or importing distributor may furnish free social media advertising to a retail licensee if the social media advertisement does not contain the retail price of any alcoholic liquor and the social media advertisement complies with any applicable rules or regulations issued by the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau of the United States Department of the Treasury. A manufacturer, distributor, or importing distributor may list the names of one or more unaffiliated retailers in the advertisement of alcoholic liquor through social media. Nothing in this Section shall prohibit a retailer from communicating with a manufacturer, distributor, or importing distributor on social media or sharing media on the social media of a manufacturer, distributor, or importing distributor. A retailer may request free social media advertising from a manufacturer, distributor, or importing distributor. Nothing in this Section shall prohibit a manufacturer, distributor, or importing distributor from sharing, reposting, or otherwise forwarding a social media post by a retail licensee, so long as the sharing, reposting, or forwarding of the social media post does not contain the retail price of any alcoholic liquor. No manufacturer, distributor, or importing distributor shall pay or reimburse a retailer, directly or indirectly, for any social media advertising services, except as specifically permitted in this Act. No retailer shall accept any payment or reimbursement, directly or indirectly, for any social media advertising services offered by a manufacturer, distributor, or importing distributor, except as specifically permitted in this Act. For the purposes of this Section, "social media" means a service, platform, or site where users communicate with one another and share media, such as pictures, videos, music, and blogs, with other users free of charge.

No right of action shall exist for the collection of any claim based upon credit extended to a distributor, importing distributor or retail licensee contrary to the provisions of this Section.

Every manufacturer, importing distributor and distributor shall submit or cause to be submitted, to the State Commission, in triplicate, not later than Thursday of each calendar week, a verified written list of the names and respective addresses of each retail licensee purchasing spirits or wine from such manufacturer, importing distributor or distributor who, on the first business day of that calendar week, was delinquent beyond the above mentioned permissible merchandising credit period of 30 days; or, if such is the fact, a verified written statement that no retail licensee purchasing spirits or wine was then delinquent beyond such permissible merchandising credit period of 30 days.

Every manufacturer, importing distributor and distributor shall submit or cause to be submitted, to the State Commission, in triplicate, a verified written list of the names and respective addresses of each previously reported delinquent retail licensee who has cured such delinquency by payment, which list shall be submitted not later than the close of the second full business day following the day such delinquency was so cured.

Such written verified reports required to be submitted by this Section shall be posted by the State Commission in each of its offices in places available for public inspection not later than the day following receipt thereof by the Commission. The reports so posted shall constitute notice to every manufacturer, importing distributor and distributor of the information contained therein. Actual notice to manufacturers, importing distributors and distributors of the information contained in any such posted reports, however received, shall also constitute notice of such information.

The 30 day merchandising credit period allowed by this Section shall commence with the day immediately following the date of invoice and shall include all successive days including Sundays and holidays to and including the 30th successive day.

In addition to other methods allowed by law, payment by check during the period for which merchandising credit may be extended under the provisions of this Section shall be considered payment. All checks received in payment for alcoholic liquor shall be promptly deposited for collection. A post dated check or a check dishonored on presentation for payment shall not be deemed payment.

A retail licensee shall not be deemed to be delinquent in payment for any alleged sale to him of alcoholic liquor when there exists a bona fide dispute between such retailer and a manufacturer, importing distributor or distributor with respect to the amount of indebtedness existing because of such alleged sale. A retail licensee shall not be deemed to be delinquent under this provision and 11 Ill. Adm. Code 100.90 until 30 days after the date on which the region in which the retail licensee is located enters Phase 4 of the Governor's Restore Illinois Plan as issued on May 5, 2020.

A delinquent retail licensee who engages in the retail liquor business at 2 or more locations shall be deemed to be delinquent with respect to each such location.

The license of any person who violates any provision of this Section shall be subject to suspension or revocation in the manner provided by this Act.

If any part or provision of this Article or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be adjudged invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall be confined by its operation to the controversy in which it was mentioned and shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of this Article or the application thereof to any other person or circumstance and to this and the provisions of this Article are declared severable.

(Source: P.A. 99-448, eff. 8-24-15.)

(235 ILCS 5/6-27.1)

Sec. 6-27.1. Responsible alcohol service server training.

(a) Unless issued a valid server training certificate between July 1, 2012 and July 1, 2015 by a certified Beverage Alcohol Sellers and Servers Education and Training (BASSET) trainer, all alcohol servers in Cook County are required to obtain and complete training in basic responsible alcohol service as outlined in 77 Ill. Adm. Code 3500, as those provisions exist on July 1, 2015 (the effective date of Public Act 98-939), by July 1, 2015 or within 120 days after the alcohol server begins his or her employment, whichever is later. All alcohol servers in a county, other than Cook County, with a population of 200,000 inhabitants or more are required to obtain and complete training in basic responsible alcohol service as outlined in 77 Ill. Adm. Code 3500, as those provisions exist on July 1, 2015 (the effective date of Public Act 98-939), by July 1, 2016 or within 120 days after the alcohol server begins his or her employment, whichever is later. All alcohol servers in a county with a population of more than 30,000 inhabitants and less than 200,000 inhabitants are required to obtain and complete training in basic responsible alcohol service as outlined in 77 Ill. Adm. Code 3500, as those provisions exist on July 1, 2015 (the effective date of Public Act 98-939), by July 1, 2017 or within 120 days after the alcohol server begins his or her employment, whichever is later. All alcohol servers in counties with a population of 30,000 inhabitants or less are required to obtain and complete training in basic responsible alcohol service as outlined in 77 Ill. Adm. Code 3500, as those provisions exist on July 1, 2015 (the effective date of Public Act 98-939), by July 1, 2018 or within 120 days after the alcohol server begins his or her employment, whichever is later.

There is no limit to the amount of times a server may take the training. A certificate of training belongs to the server, and a server may transfer a certificate of training to a different employer, but shall not transfer a certificate of training to another server. Proof that an alcohol server has been trained must be available upon reasonable request by State law enforcement officials. For the purpose of this Section, "alcohol servers" means persons who sell or serve open containers of alcoholic beverages at retail, anyone who delivers mixed drinks under Section 6-28.8, and anyone whose job description entails the checking of identification for the purchase of open containers of alcoholic beverages at retail or for entry into the licensed premises. The definition does not include (i) a distributor or importing distributor conducting product sampling as authorized in Section 6-31 of this Act or a registered tasting representative, as provided in 11 Ill. Adm. Code 100.40, conducting a tasting, as defined in 11 Ill. Adm. Code 100.10; (ii) a volunteer serving alcoholic beverages at a charitable function; or (iii) an instructor engaged in training or educating on the proper technique for using a system that dispenses alcoholic beverages.

(b) Responsible alcohol service training must cover and assess knowledge of the topics noted in 77 Ill. Adm. Code 3500.155.

(c) Beginning on the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly, but no later than October 1, 2015, all existing BASSET trainers who are already BASSET certified as of the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly shall be recertified by the State Commission and be required to comply with the conditions for server training set forth in this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly.

(d) Training modules and certificate program plans must be approved by the State Commission. All documents, materials, or information related to responsible alcohol service training program approval that are submitted to the State Commission are confidential and shall not be open to public inspection or dissemination and are exempt from disclosure.

The State Commission shall only approve programs that meet the following criteria:

(1) the training course covers the content specified in 77 Ill. Adm. Code 3500.155;

(2) if the training course is classroom-based, the classroom training is at least 4 hours, is available in English and Spanish, and includes a test;

(3) if the training course is online or computer-based, the course is designed in a way that ensures that no content can be skipped, is interactive, has audio for content for servers that have a disability, and includes a test;

(4) training and testing is based on a job task analysis that clearly identifies and focuses on the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to responsibly serve alcoholic beverages and is developed using best practices in instructional design and exam development to ensure that the program is fair and legally defensible;

(5) training and testing is conducted by any means available, including, but not limited to, online, computer, classroom, or live trainers; and

(6) the program must provide access on a 24-hour-per-day, 7-days-per-week basis for certificate verification for State Commission, State law enforcement officials, and employers to be able to verify certificate authenticity.

(e) Nothing in subsection (d) of this Section shall be construed to require a program to use a test administrator or proctor.

(f) A certificate issued from a BASSET-licensed training program shall be accepted as meeting the training requirements for all server license and permit laws and ordinances in the State.

(g) A responsible alcohol service training certificate from a BASSET-licensed program shall be valid for 3 years.

(h) The provisions of this Section shall apply beginning July 1, 2015. From July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, enforcement of the provisions of this Section shall be limited to education and notification of the requirements to encourage compliance.

(i) The provisions of this Section do not apply to a special event retailer.

(Source: P.A. 98-939, eff. 7-1-15; 99-46, eff. 7-15-15.)

(235 ILCS 5/6-28.8 new)

Sec. 6-28.8. Delivery and carry out of mixed drinks permitted.

(a) In this Section:

"Cocktail" or "mixed drink" means any beverage obtained by combining ingredients alcoholic in nature, whether brewed, fermented, or distilled, with ingredients non-alcoholic in nature, such as fruit juice, lemonade, cream, or a carbonated beverage.

"Original container" means, for the purposes of this Section only, a container that is filled, sealed, and secured by a retail licensee's employee at the retail licensee's location with a tamper-evident lid or cap.

"Sealed container" means a rigid container that contains a mixed drink, is new, has never been used, has a secured lid or cap designed to prevent consumption without removal of the lid or cap, and is tamper-evident. "Sealed container" does not include a container with a lid with sipping holes or openings for straws or a container made of plastic, paper, or polystyrene foam.

"Tamper-evident" means a lid or cap that has been sealed with tamper-evident covers, including, but not limited to, wax dip or heat shrink wrap.

(b) A cocktail or mixed drink placed in a sealed container by a retail licensee at the retail licensee's location may be transferred and sold for off-premises consumption if the following requirements are met:

(1) the cocktail is transferred within the licensed premises, by a curbside pickup, or by delivery by an employee of the retail licensee who:

(A) has been trained in accordance with Section 6-27.1 at the time of the sale;

(B) is at least 21 years of age; and

(C) upon delivery, verifies the age of the person to whom the cocktail is being delivered;

(2) if the employee delivering the cocktail is not able to safely verify a person's age or level of intoxication upon delivery, the employee shall cancel the sale of alcohol and return the product to the retail license holder;

(3) the sealed container is placed in the trunk of the vehicle or if there is no trunk, in the vehicle's rear compartment that is not readily accessible to the passenger area;

(4) the sealed container shall be affixed with a label or tag that contains the following information:

(A) the cocktail or mixed drink ingredients, type, and name of the alcohol;

(B) the name, license number, and address of the retail licensee that filled the original container and sold the product;

(C) the volume of the cocktail or mixed drink in the sealed container; and

(D) the sealed container was filled less than 7 days before the date of sale.

(c) Third-party delivery services are not permitted to deliver cocktails and mixed drinks under this Section.

(d) If there is an executive order of the Governor in effect during a disaster, the employee delivering the mixed drink or cocktail must comply with any requirements of that executive order, including, but not limited to, wearing gloves and a mask and maintaining distancing requirements when interacting with the public.

(e) Delivery or carry out of a cocktail or mixed drink is prohibited if:

(1) a third party delivers the cocktail or mixed drink;

(2) a container of a mixed drink or cocktail is not tamper-evident and sealed;

(3) a container of a mixed drink or cocktail is transported in the passenger area of a vehicle;

(4) a mixed drink or cocktail is delivered by a person or to a person who is under the age of 21; or

(5) the person delivering a mixed drink or cocktail fails to verify the age of the person to whom the mixed drink or cocktail is being delivered.

(f) Violations of this Section shall be subject to any applicable penalties, including, but not limited to, the penalties specified under Section 11-502 of the Illinois Vehicle Code.

(f-5) This Section is not intended to prohibit or preempt the ability of a brew pub, tap room, or distilling pub to continue to temporarily deliver alcoholic liquor pursuant to guidance issued by the State Commission on March 19, 2020 entitled "Illinois Liquor Control Commission, COVID-19 Related Actions, Guidance on Temporary Delivery of Alcoholic Liquor". This Section shall only grant authorization to holders of State of Illinois retail liquor licenses but not to licensees that simultaneously hold any licensure or privilege to manufacture alcoholic liquors within or outside of the State of Illinois.

(g) This Section is not a denial or limitation of home rule powers and functions under Section 6 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution.

(h) This Section is repealed one year after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 101st General Assembly.

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.

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