

Act No. 144 (S.250). Alcoholic beverages; Liquor Control Board; Commissioner of Liquor Control; licensing, taxation

An act relating to alcoholic beverages

This act makes multiple amendments to the statutes governing the manufacture, distribution, and sale of alcoholic beverages, as well as the statutes governing the Liquor Control Board and the Commissioner of Liquor Control, including:

- Repealing the cabaret license
- Amending the provisions governing manufacturer's and rectifier's licenses, including by clarifying that a manufacturer's or rectifier's license permits the holder to manufacture or rectify beer, wine and fortified wines, or spirits and fortified wines
- Amending the citizenship and residency requirements for licensees
- Amending the period of notice required prior to a promotional alcoholic beverage tasting
- Adding a provision to permit licensed manufacturers and rectifiers to conduct tastings of their own products for quality assurance purposes
- Creating a retail delivery permit that allows a second-class licensee to deliver beer or wine sold from the licensed premises to an individual of legal age at a physical address in Vermont
- Creating a destination resort master license that permits a destination resort to designate licensed caterers and commercial caterers that will be permitted to cater individual events within the boundaries of the resort upon the license holder providing notice of the event to the Department and the municipality in lieu of obtaining a separate request to cater permit for each individual event
- Amending the filing dates for the per gallon tax on beer and wine
- Amending the filing dates for manufacturers and rectifiers in relation to the tax on revenue from the sales of spirits and fortified wines
- Amending the statutes governing the Department of Liquor Control's collection and payment of the tax on revenue from the sales of spirits and fortified wines
- Clarifying that alcoholic beverages sold or provided for immediate consumption are subject to the meals and rooms tax and exempt from the sales and use tax
- Adding a provision permitting the transfer of beer between two licensed manufacturers that are under the same ownership without payment of the per gallon tax on beer at the time of the transfer

- Amending the law governing the composition of the Liquor Control Board
- Clarifying that members of the Liquor Control Board may be removed by the Governor for cause
- Amending the statute governing the appointment of the Commissioner of Liquor Control
- Directing the Department of Taxes to study the transfer of beer between two licensed manufacturers that are under the same ownership without payment of the per gallon tax on beer at the time of the transfer
- Directing the Office of Legislative Council to prepare a draft bill to make technical amendments to Title 7 to improve its clarity, and to identify substantive amendments that may be necessary to remove out-of-date or obsolete provisions or to reflect more accurately the current practices and programs of the Liquor Control Board and Department of Liquor Control
- Directing the Commissioner of Liquor Control to develop a proposal to improve, diversify, and increase the number of Vermont's agency liquor stores in order to recapture sales of spirits and fortified wines that are lost to neighboring states

Multiple effective dates, beginning on July 1, 2016