

2026 -- H 8250

=====  
LC005970  
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

—————  
A N A C T

RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES

Introduced By: Representatives Alzate, Cotter, Carson, Donovan, Hull, J. Lombardi,  
Stewart, McEntee, and Hopkins

Date Introduced: March 06, 2026

Referred To: House Small Business

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 3-7-14.2 of the General Laws in Chapter 3-7 entitled "Retail  
2 Licenses" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 ~~3-7-14.2. Class P licenses — Caterers~~ **Class P licenses -- Caterers -- Distillery off-**  
4 **premises event endorsement.**

5 (a) A caterer licensed by the department of health and the division of taxation shall be  
6 eligible to apply for a Class P license from the department of business regulation. The department  
7 of business regulation is authorized to issue all caterers' licenses. The license will be valid  
8 throughout this state as a state license and no further license will be required or tax imposed by any  
9 city or town upon this alcoholic beverage privilege. Each caterer to which the license is issued shall  
10 pay to the department of business regulation an annual fee of five hundred dollars (\$500) for the  
11 license, which fees are paid into the state treasury. The department is authorized to promulgate  
12 rules and regulations for the implementation of this license. In promulgating said rules, the  
13 department shall include, but is not limited to, the following standards:

14 (1) Proper identification will be required for individuals who look thirty (30) years old or  
15 younger and who are ordering alcoholic beverages;

16 (2) Only valid ID's as defined by these titles are acceptable;

17 (3) An individual may not be served more than two (2) drinks at a time;

18 (4) Licensees, their agents, or employees will not serve visibly intoxicated individuals;

19 (5) Licensees may only serve alcoholic beverages for no more than a five-hour (5) period

1 per event;

2 (6) Only a licensee, or its employees, may serve alcoholic beverages at the event;

3 (7) The licensee will deliver and remove alcoholic beverages to the event; and

4 (8) No shots or triple alcoholic drinks will be served.

5 (b) Any bartender employed by the licensee shall be certified by a nationally recognized  
6 alcohol beverage server training program.

7 (c) The licensee shall purchase at retail all alcoholic beverages from a licensed Class A  
8 alcohol retail establishment located in the state, provided, however, any licensee who also holds a  
9 Class B license, issued pursuant to the provisions of § 3-7-7, shall be allowed to purchase alcoholic  
10 beverages at wholesale. Any person violating this section shall be fined five hundred dollars (\$500)  
11 for this violation and shall be subject to license revocation. The provisions of this section shall be  
12 enforced in accordance with this title.

13 (d) Violation of ~~subsection~~ subsections (a) or (e) of this section is punishable upon  
14 conviction by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500). Fines imposed under this section  
15 shall be paid to the department of business regulation.

16 (e) A licensed distillery manufacturer, licensed under the provisions of chapter 6 of title 3  
17 ("manufacturing and wholesale licenses"), shall be eligible to apply for a distillery off-premise  
18 event endorsement under a Class P license. This endorsement authorizes the licensed distillery to  
19 sell and serve distilled spirits manufactured by the licensee at designated events, including private  
20 celebrations, weddings, corporate functions, festivals, ticketed events, and other temporary  
21 gatherings approved by the department using a mobile bar unit or temporary service structure.

22 (f) The department of business regulation shall promulgate rules and regulations for the  
23 implementation of the distillery off-premise event endorsement including, but not limited to:

24 (1) Event permit requirements;

25 (2) Insurance and liability standards;

26 (3) Responsible server training requirements;

27 (4) Municipal consent or notification procedures; and

28 (5) Caps or limits on annual endorsements if needed to protect public safety.

29 (g) Nothing in this section authorizes the sale of distilled spirits other than those  
30 manufactured by the licensed distillery.

31 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

=====  
LC005970  
=====

EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES

\*\*\*

1           This act would establish a specific statutory pathway for distillery manufacturers to receive  
2 a distillery off-premises event endorsement under a class P license. This endorsement would  
3 authorize a licensed distillery to sell and serve distilled spirits manufactured by the licensee at  
4 designated events such as private celebrations, weddings, and corporate functions.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

=====  
LC005970  
=====