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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES - RETAIL LICENSES

Introduced By: Senator Maryellen Goodwin

Date Introduced: February 28, 2013

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 3-7-4.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 3-7 entitled "Retail  
2 Licenses" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3           ~~3-7-4.1. Holders of retail Class A licenses permitted to conduct wine and beer~~  
4 ~~samplings inside licensed premises~~ **Holders of retail Class A licenses permitted to conduct**  
5 **wine, beer, and distilled spirit samplings inside licensed premises. --** Any holder of a Class A  
6 retail license shall be permitted to conduct at no charge to the consumer, inside the premises of  
7 the licensee, sample tastings of wine (under 13% alcohol by volume), ~~and~~ beer (under 5.5%  
8 alcohol by volume) and distilled spirits available for purchase from the licensee's outlet. These  
9 samples shall not exceed one ounce servings of each wine, the number of wines being limited to  
10 no more than four (4) products at any one tasting and one ounce serving of each beer with the  
11 number of beer samplings being limited to two (2) products at any one tasting and one quarter  
12 ounce serving (1/4 oz) of each distilled spirit, the number of distilled spirits being limited to no  
13 more than two (2) products at any one tasting. Furthermore, wine, ~~and~~ beer and distilled spirits  
14 samplings may not be conducted simultaneously on the same Class A licensed premise. Each  
15 consumer shall be limited to no more than one sample tasting of each product.

16           It shall be required that the licensee provide, at no charge to the consumer, food  
17 samplings to be included with the tasting of all wine and beer. Those food samplings not  
18 consumed during the tasting shall not thereafter be offered for sale.

19           The licensee shall control, without wholesaler or supplier participation, the dispensing of

1 all samples to prospective customers. The licensee may not hold more than ten (10) tasting events  
2 in any thirty (30) day period. It shall be required that the licensee provide to the dispenser(s) of  
3 said wine and beer samples, training in the service of alcoholic beverages by a recognized  
4 training provider of alcoholic beverage service.

5 Sampling events may not be promoted except on the licensed premises. It shall be  
6 unlawful for any wholesaler, manufacturer, supplier or any other person or entity to participate or  
7 provide anything or any service of value on account of or in conjunction with any such sampling.  
8 It shall be unlawful for any tasting or combination of tastings to exceed more than four (4) hours  
9 from start to finish and must be conducted during the normal hours of business.

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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- 1           This act would add certain amounts of distilled spirits to the permitted samples which
- 2    may be distributed by class A license holders.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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