

2024 -- S 2127

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

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A N A C T

RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- MANUFACTURING AND WHOLESALE
LICENSES

Introduced By: Senators Lawson, Lauria, Felag, Euer, Britto, Pearson, Gallo, Murray,
DiMario, and Bissailon

Date Introduced: January 12, 2024

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 3-6-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 3-6 entitled "Manufacturing
2 and Wholesale Licenses" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **3-6-1. Manufacturer's license.**

4 (a) A manufacturer's license authorizes the holder to establish and operate a brewery,
5 distillery, or winery at the place described in the license for the manufacture of beverages within
6 this state. The license does not authorize more than one of the activities of operator of a brewery or
7 distillery or winery and a separate license shall be required for each plant.

8 (b) The license also authorizes the sale at wholesale, at the licensed place by the
9 manufacturer of the product of the licensed plant, to another license holder and the transportation
10 and delivery from the place of sale to a licensed place or to a common carrier for that delivery. The
11 license does authorize the sale of beverages for consumption on premises where sold; provided that
12 the manufacturer does not sell an amount in excess of forty-eight ounces (48 oz.) of malt beverage
13 or four and one-half ounces (4.5 oz.) of distilled spirits, or fifteen ounces (15 oz.) of wine per
14 visitor, per day, or a combination not greater than three (3) drinks where a drink is defined as up to
15 sixteen ounces (16 oz.) of beer or one and one-half ounces (1.5 oz.) or five ounces (5 oz.) of wine
16 of spirits, for consumption on the premises. The license also authorizes the sale of beverages
17 produced on the premises in an amount not in excess of forty-eight (48) twelve-ounce (12 oz.)
18 bottles or cans or forty-eight (48) sixteen-ounce (16 oz.) bottles or cans of malt beverages, or one

1 thousand five hundred milliliters (1,500 ml) of distilled spirits per visitor, or three (3) seven hundred
2 fifty milliliter (750 ml) bottles of wine or the equivalent amount of wine sold by the can or other
3 container, per day, to be sold in containers that may hold no more than seventy-two ounces (72 oz.)
4 each. These beverages may be sold to the consumers for off-premises consumption, and shall be
5 sold pursuant to the laws governing retail Class A establishments. The containers for the sale of
6 beverages for off-premises consumption shall be sealed. The license does not authorize the sale of
7 beverages in this state for delivery outside this state in violation of the law of the place of delivery.
8 The license holder may provide to visitors, in conjunction with a tour or tasting, samples, clearly
9 marked as samples, not to exceed three hundred seventy-five milliliters (375 ml) per visitor for
10 distilled spirits and seventy-two ounces (72 oz.) per visitor for malt beverages at the licensed plant
11 by the manufacturer of the product of the licensed plant to visitors for off-premises consumption.
12 The license does not authorize providing samples to a visitor of any alcoholic beverages for off-
13 premises consumption that are not manufactured at the licensed plant. All manufacturer licenses
14 conducting retail sales or providing samples shall be subject to compliance with alcohol server
15 training and liquor liability insurance requirements set forth in §§ 3-7-6.1 and 3-7-29 and the
16 regulations promulgated thereunder.

17 (c) The annual fee for the license is three thousand dollars (\$3,000) for a distillery
18 producing more than fifty thousand gallons (50,000 gal.) per year and five hundred dollars (\$500)
19 for a distillery producing less than or equal to fifty thousand gallons (50,000 gal.) per year; five
20 hundred dollars (\$500) for a brewery; and one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) for a winery
21 producing more than fifty thousand gallons (50,000 gal.) per year and five hundred dollars (\$500)
22 per year for a winery producing less than fifty thousand gallons (50,000 gal.) per year. All those
23 fees are prorated to the year ending December 1 in every calendar year and shall be paid to the
24 general treasurer for the use of the state.

25 SECTION 3. 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 authorize manufacturer-wineries to sell three (3) drinks of wine for
2 consumption on premises per visitor per day, where a drink is defined as five ounces (5 oz.) of
3 wine. Additionally, this act would authorize a manufacturer-winery to sell up to three (3) seven
4 hundred fifty milliliter (750 ml) bottles of wine produced on the premises to be sold, for off-
5 premises consumption.

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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