

HCS SCS SB 262 -- WINE AND LIQUOR SALES

SPONSOR: Griesheimer (Johnson, 47)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Local Government by a vote of 13 to 3.

This substitute changes the laws regarding wine and liquor sales. In its main provisions, the substitute:

(1) Extends the hours of business for premises operated by wine manufacturers who sell liquor by the drink from between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and midnight to 6:00 a.m. and 1:30 a.m. on Monday through Saturday and from 11:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. and midnight on Sunday. The amount of Missouri-produced wine which must be sold by persons obtaining certain liquor licenses is reduced from 100% to 75%;

(2) Allows the issuance of a license for liquor sales within 100 feet of any school or church if the applicant obtains the written consent of the municipal governing body. Currently, licenses cannot be granted for liquor sales within 100 feet of any school or church. The substitute also creates an exception for church, school, civic, service, fraternal, veteran, political, or charitable clubs or organizations observing Fourth of July celebrations or which are exempt from federal taxes. Premises holding licenses issued prior to January 1, 2004, are also exempt from the prohibition;

(3) Clarifies the language for the usage of tags under the keg registration law enacted in 2003 and establishes a \$50 minimum keg deposit;

(4) Allows places of entertainment in St. Charles County to sell liquor by the drink on Sundays if the establishment has gross annual sales in excess of \$150,000, has been in operation for at least one year, and pays a fee of \$200 per year in addition to the licensing fees;

(5) Clarifies that an admission charge to an event at which alcohol is available at no extra cost does not constitute resale;

(6) Increases the amount of time from 120 to 168 consecutive hours that will be allowed for a temporary catering permit; and

(7) Changes some references of the Division of Liquor Control to correctly reference the Division of Alcohol and Tobacco Control.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Income on General Revenue Fund of \$1,667 in FY 2006, \$2,000 in FY 2007, and \$2,000 in FY 2008. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that wine manufacturer licensees' hours of operation are shorter than those for restaurants; and uniform hours of operation will make regulation, policing, and enforcement easier.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Griesheimer; and Division of Alcohol and Tobacco Control.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Julie Jinkens McNitt, Legislative Analyst