

CCS HCS SCS SB 299 & SS SCS SB 616 -- LIQUOR CONTROL

This bill changes the laws regarding liquor control. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) States that the regulation of the sale and distribution of alcohol beverages under Chapter 311, RSMo, achieves the state policy goals of promoting responsible consumption, combating underage drinking, and maintaining an orderly marketplace;

(2) Updates state merchandising regulations to the current trade practices to make them consistent with federal regulations, addresses nonintoxicating beverages in the context of merchandising practices, and establishes charges for late liquor license renewals;

(3) Allows distillers, wholesalers, winemakers, or brewers to make monetary contributions to not-for-profit organizations for special event infrastructure expenses under certain conditions;

(4) Allows a tax-exempt entity located within a building designated as a national historic landmark in a convention trade area in Kansas City, North Kansas City, or Jackson County that holds a license to sell intoxicating liquor by the drink at retail for consumption on the premises to stay open until 6:00 a.m. of the following day. Currently, the establishment can stay open until 3:00 a.m. of the following day;

(5) Removes the expiration date of January 1, 2007, for provisions allowing certain resorts licensed to sell intoxicating liquor by the drink at retail for consumption on the premises in Camden, Miller, and Morgan counties to remain open during the week until 3:00 a.m.;

(6) Authorizes a vintage wine solicitor license with a \$500 annual fee;

(7) Allows a licensed wine manufacturer from this state or any other state to obtain a wine direct shipper license in order to ship up to two cases of wine per month directly to a Missouri resident older than 21 years of age for his or her personal use. Wine manufacturers must use a licensed alcohol carrier as specified in the bill when shipping the wine. A retail alcohol beverage licensee may ship up to two cases of wine annually to an adult Missouri resident;

(8) Authorizes certain licensed wine manufacturers who allow consumption of wine on their premises to open on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. instead of 11:00 a.m.;

(9) Allows wineries, distillers, manufacturers, wholesalers, or brewers to provide samples for customer tasting purposes on any temporary licensed retail premises or tax-exempt organization's licensed premises, or off a licensed retail premises under certain conditions; and

(10) Authorizes a cause of action against any person who is the proximate cause of an official action by the Division of Alcohol and Tobacco Control within the Department of Public Safety against a retail liquor licensee who is aggrieved by the official action. The maximum award of damages is \$5,000 plus reasonable court costs and attorney fees. No cause of action can be brought against an employee of the division or any law enforcement officer.