

CCS SS SCS HCS HB 267 -- LIQUOR CONTROL

(Vetoed by the Governor)

This bill makes several changes regarding the Division of Liquor Control. The bill:

(1) Expands the definition of "amusement place" to include certain golf driving ranges, horse arenas, and certain buildings where baseball, hockey, and basketball are played. The required square footage of an amusement place is reduced from 6,000 to 5,000 square feet. Currently, an amusement place is allowed to sell intoxicating liquor by the drink for consumption upon the premises between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and midnight on Sunday. The bill allows sales of liquor by the drink to begin at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays;

(2) Permits qualified licensees in Camden, Morgan, and Miller counties located in areas designated as convention trade areas to sell liquor by the drink until 3:00 a.m.;

(3) Allows persons licensed to sell malt liquor at retail by the drink to also sell nonintoxicating beer (3.2%) by the drink. This allows licensees the option of selling 3.2% or 5% beer 7 days a week. The fee for the license is \$25;

(4) Clarifies language regarding the remittance of license fees. Procedures are established regarding checks returned due to insufficient funds;

(5) Prohibits political subdivisions, except Kansas City, from imposing a liquor license disciplinary action stricter than that imposed by the Supervisor of Liquor Control;

(6) Expands Sunday sales to include licensees who sell intoxicating liquor by the drink for consumption on the premises;

(7) Allows Sunday sales of liquor by the drink without a special permit on February 14;

(8) Allows persons at least 18 years old to accept payment for liquor when acting as a waiter or waitress in a business that sells food for consumption and has an annual gross income of \$200,000;

(9) Allows retailers to accept the operator's license issued by any state as proof of age for the purchase of alcoholic beverages. Under current law, retailers may only accept a license issued by a state bordering Missouri as proof of age;

- (10) Creates the crime of knowingly manufacturing, selling, or supplying a false identification. Persons guilty of this crime are guilty of a class A misdemeanor;
- (11) Allows a liquor licensee or employee of the licensee to drink intoxicating beverages in the licensee's establishment;
- (12) Prohibits agents of Liquor Control from drinking intoxicating beverages in a licensee's establishment while on duty;
- (13) Reduces the fines that may be assessed by Liquor Control to a minimum of \$50 and a maximum of \$1,000. Under current law the minimum fine is \$100 and the maximum is \$2,500;
- (14) Requires the Division of Liquor Control to establish rules for the use of minors in enforcing liquor control laws. These rules must include requirements that minors used in investigations be 18 or 19 years old, be of youthful appearance, and have the consent of their parent or guardian, and that attempts by such minors to purchase liquor or beer be videotaped or audiotaped, and that they show correct identification when asked and not lie to the seller in order to induce a sale. If any investigation by a state, county, city, or other local law enforcement authority violates the division's rules on the use of minors, the Supervisor of Liquor Control will not take disciplinary actions against the license holder on the basis of the investigation nor cooperate in any prosecution of any alleged violations discovered by the investigation;
- (15) Requires on-duty liquor control peace officers to immediately identify themselves upon entering a liquor licensee's establishment, unless working undercover;
- (16) Expands the definition of boats which may sell liquor by the drink;
- (17) Allows licensed places of entertainment in St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and Jackson County to open at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays;
- (18) Allows distillers or wholesalers to install certain dispensing accessories at retail business establishments; and
- (19) Deletes certain obsolete language.