

HB 1354 -- RETAIL LIQUOR LICENSES

SPONSOR: Spencer

This bill simplifies the retail liquor licensing laws. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Establishes four durations for liquor licenses: three years; one year; special event not to exceed 14 days; and special event not to exceed one day;
- (2) Authorizes a three-year license only to a person or to an entity controlled in whole or in part by a person who:
  - (a) Has been continuously in business in the state for a period of 10 years before making application;
  - (b) Has not been convicted of any offense under the liquor laws; and
  - (c) Has not previously possessed a liquor license that was revoked for cause;
- (3) Authorizes the division of alcohol and tobacco control to reduce a three-year license to a one-year license for any violation under the liquor laws;
- (4) Specifies that all licenses will be valid for every day of the week and for all hours of the day that the licensed premises is authorized by law to remain open;
- (5) Requires a criminal background check on all license applicants prior to issuance of the license; and
- (6) Makes changes to terms used in current law to be consistent with the new retail license terminology, repeals retail licensing provisions in current law, and repeals intersectional references to laws repealed in the bill.