

House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 440

SESSION: 2000 Regular Session

TOPIC: Omnibus Liquor Bill

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Overview

This bill contains several statewide and local provisions relating to liquor:

Allowing winemaking-on-premises stores to be exempt from state licensing if wine is made only for personal or family use

Allowing exclusive liquor stores to conduct wine tastings

Reducing the minimum numbers of members a club must have to qualify for a club liquor license

Allowing the state fair board to allow sale and possession of intoxicating liquor at the state fair grounds

Allowing licenses for theatres in Minneapolis and Anoka

Exempting an additional on-sale license in Bemidji authorized in 1999 from restrictions on proximity to state university campuses

Allowing licenses for the Lake Superior Center in Duluth and the Quad Cities Joint Recreational Authority in Eveleth

Allowing sale of liquor at a New Year's Eve event in Springfield without a Sunday liquor referendum

- 1 **Intoxicating liquor on state fair grounds.** Allows the state fair board to allow sale, possession, and consumption of intoxicating liquor at special events on the state fair grounds. (Present law prohibits sale or possession of intoxicating liquor on the fair grounds.) Provides that the section

does not authorize the fair board to issue retail licenses.

- 2 **Club license eligibility.** Reduces from 50 to 30 the number of active members a club must have in order to be eligible for a club liquor license.
- 3 **Minneapolis theatres.** Amends the law authorizing on-sale wine and beer licenses for the Brave New Workshop and Theatre de la Jeune Lune theatres in Minneapolis to include similar licenses for the Illusion Theatre and the Hollywood Theatre.
- 4 **Winemaking-on-premises store.** Provides that a commercial establishment where individuals make wine on the premises for personal and family use and not for resale does not require a state license.
Requires such stores to be operated in accordance with the federal regulations governing winemaking for personal or family use. Those regulations limit production to 200 gallons per year for a household of 2 or more and 100 gallons for a household of one. They allow removal of wine from the premise for use as tastings or competitions as well as for personal or family use but prohibit removal for sale.
Prohibits sale of alcoholic beverages on the premises where wine is made unless the establishment is licensed for the sale.
- 5 **Wine tastings by exclusive liquor stores.** Allows exclusive liquor stores to conduct wine tastings on the premises of an on-sale licensee. Prohibits sale of wine at a wine tasting but allows participants to fill out a preference form that may later be used for off-sale purchases. Allows an exclusive liquor store to have wine sold or donated by a wholesaler licensed to sell wine. Requires the exclusive liquor store to use the fees collected from participants only for defraying the cost of the wine tasting.
- 6 **Bemidji license.** Amends the 1999 law that authorized an additional on-sale intoxicating liquor license for Bemidji by providing that the license is not subject to the law that prohibits an intoxicating liquor license within 1,500 feet of a state university
- 7 **Lake Superior Center license.** Allows Duluth to issue an on-sale intoxicating liquor license to the Lake Superior Center Authority for events at the Lakes Superior Center. Provides that the license only authorizes sale to persons leasing space at the center, and their guests, for a convention, banquet, conference, meeting, or social affair. Requires the license to be issued in accordance with laws governing licenses in first-class cities and with charter provisions and ordinances not inconsistent with this section.
- 8 **Springfield New Year's Eve event.** Allows Springfield to authorize the holder of an on-sale intoxicating liquor license it issues to sell intoxicating liquor at an event on New Year's Eve 2000-2001 without having to hold a Sunday liquor referendum. Makes the license subject to the general law providing for catering of an event at a city-owned facility by an on-sale licensee.
- 9 **Eveleth license.** Allows Eveleth to issue an on-sale intoxicating liquor license to the Quad Cities Joint Recreational Authority. Allows the Authority to contract with an independent contractor to operate the licensed establishment, and provides that the contractor need not hold its own on-sale license.
- 10 **Anoka license.** Allows Anoka to issue an on-sale wine license to the Lyric Arts Company for the Main Street State theatre in Anoka. Allows the license to authorize sale on all days of the week to holders of tickets for performances at the theatre.
- 11-12 **Cottage Grove license.** Allows Cottage Grove to issue an on-sale intoxicating liquor license to its economic development authority for the River Oaks golf course. Makes the license subject to provisions that govern municipal liquor stores, except that the authority of existing law for the commissioner of public safety to impose penalties against the establishment would not apply if the city imposed a comparable or greater penalty on the licensee.

Specifies that the city of Cottage Grove is the seller and licensee for purposes of the dram shop law and the mandatory liquor liability insurance law.

12 **Effective dates.** Makes local provisions effective on local approval.