

Act No. 97
Public Acts of 2005
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**STATE OF MICHIGAN
93RD LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2005**

Introduced by Senator Hammerstrom

ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 257

AN ACT to amend 1998 PA 58, entitled "An act to create a commission for the control of the alcoholic beverage traffic within this state, and to prescribe its powers, duties, and limitations; to provide for powers and duties for certain state departments and agencies; to impose certain taxes for certain purposes; to provide for the control of the alcoholic liquor traffic within this state and to provide for the power to establish state liquor stores; to provide for the care and treatment of alcoholics; to provide for the incorporation of farmer cooperative wineries and the granting of certain rights and privileges to those cooperatives; to provide for the licensing and taxation of activities regulated under this act and the disposition of the money received under this act; to prescribe liability for retail licensees under certain circumstances and to require security for that liability; to provide procedures, defenses, and remedies regarding violations of this act; to provide for the enforcement and to prescribe penalties for violations of this act; to provide for allocation of certain funds for certain purposes; to provide for the confiscation and disposition of property seized under this act; to provide referenda under certain circumstances; and to repeal acts and parts of acts," by amending sections 525, 531, and 543 (MCL 436.1525, 436.1531, and 436.1543), section 525 as amended by 2004 PA 266 and sections 531 and 543 as amended by 2004 PA 191.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 525. (1) Except as otherwise provided for in this section, the following license fees shall be paid at the time of filing applications or as otherwise provided in this act:

- (a) Manufacturers of spirits, but not including makers, blenders, and rectifiers of wines containing 21% or less alcohol by volume, \$1,000.00.
- (b) Manufacturers of beer, \$50.00 per 1,000 barrels, or fraction of a barrel, production annually with a maximum fee of \$1,000.00, and in addition \$50.00 for each motor vehicle used in delivery to retail licensees. A fee increase does not apply to a manufacturer of less than 15,000 barrels production per year.
- (c) Outstate seller of beer, delivering or selling beer in this state, \$1,000.00.
- (d) Wine makers, blenders, and rectifiers of wine, including makers, blenders, and rectifiers of wines containing 21% or less alcohol by volume, \$100.00. The small wine maker license fee is \$25.00.
- (e) Outstate seller of wine, delivering or selling wine in this state, \$300.00.
- (f) Outstate seller of mixed spirit drink, delivering or selling mixed spirit drink in this state, \$300.00.
- (g) Dining cars or other railroad or Pullman cars selling alcoholic liquor, \$100.00 per train.

(h) Wholesale vendors other than manufacturers of beer, \$300.00 for the first motor vehicle used in delivery to retail licensees and \$50.00 for each additional motor vehicle used in delivery to retail licensees.

(i) Watercraft, licensed to carry passengers, selling alcoholic liquor, a minimum fee of \$100.00 and a maximum fee of \$500.00 per year computed on the basis of \$1.00 per person per passenger capacity.

(j) Specially designated merchants, for selling beer or wine for consumption off the premises only but not at wholesale, \$100.00 for each location regardless of the fact that the location may be a part of a system or chain of merchandising.

(k) Specially designated distributors licensed by the commission to distribute spirits and mixed spirit drink in the original package for the commission for consumption off the premises, \$150.00 per year, and an additional fee of \$3.00 for each \$1,000.00 or major fraction of that amount in excess of \$25,000.00 of the total retail value of merchandise purchased under each license from the commission during the previous calendar year.

(l) Hotels of class A selling beer and wine, a minimum fee of \$250.00 and, for all bedrooms in excess of 20, \$1.00 for each additional bedroom, but not more than \$500.00.

(m) Hotels of class B selling beer, wine, mixed spirit drink, and spirits, a minimum fee of \$600.00 and, for all bedrooms in excess of 20, \$3.00 for each additional bedroom. If a hotel of class B sells beer, wine, mixed spirit drink, and spirits in more than 1 public bar, the fee entitles the hotel to sell in only 1 public bar, other than a bedroom, and a license shall be secured for each additional public bar, other than a bedroom, the fee for which is \$350.00.

(n) Taverns, selling beer and wine, \$250.00.

(o) Class C license selling beer, wine, mixed spirit drink, and spirits, \$600.00. If a class C licensee sells beer, wine, mixed spirit drink, and spirits in more than 1 bar, a fee of \$350.00 shall be paid for each additional bar. In municipally owned or supported facilities in which nonprofit organizations operate concession stands, a fee of \$100.00 shall be paid for each additional bar.

(p) Clubs selling beer, wine, mixed spirit drink, and spirits, \$300.00 for clubs having 150 or fewer duly accredited members and \$1.00 for each additional member. The membership list for the purpose only of determining the license fees to be paid under this subdivision shall be the accredited list of members as determined by a sworn affidavit 30 days before the closing of the license year. This subdivision does not prevent the commission from checking a membership list and making its own determination from the list or otherwise. The list of members and additional members is not required of a club paying the maximum fee. The maximum fee shall not exceed \$750.00 for any 1 club.

(q) Warehousemen, to be fixed by the commission with a minimum fee for each warehouse of \$50.00.

(r) Special licenses, a fee of \$50.00 per day, except that the fee for that license or permit issued to any bona fide nonprofit association, duly organized and in continuous existence for 1 year before the filing of its application, is \$25.00. Not more than 5 special licenses may be granted to any organization, including an auxiliary of the organization, in a calendar year.

(s) Airlines licensed to carry passengers in this state that sell, offer for sale, provide, or transport alcoholic liquor, \$600.00.

(t) Brandy manufacturer, \$100.00.

(u) Mixed spirit drink manufacturer, \$100.00.

(v) Brewpub, \$100.00.

(w) Class G-1, \$1,000.00.

(x) Class G-2, \$500.00.

(2) The fees provided in this act for the various types of licenses shall not be prorated for a portion of the effective period of the license. Notwithstanding subsection (1), the initial license fee for any licenses issued under section 531(3) and (4) is \$20,000.00. The renewal license fee shall be the amount described in subsection (1). However, the commission shall not impose the \$20,000.00 initial license fee for applicants whose license eligibility was already approved on the effective date of the amendatory act that added this sentence.

(3) Beginning July 23, 2004, and except in the case of any resort or resort economic development license issued under section 531(2), (3), (4), and (5) and a license issued under section 521, the commission shall issue an initial or renewal license not later than 90 days after the applicant files a completed application. Receipt of the application is considered the date the application is received by any agency or department of the state of Michigan. If the application is considered incomplete by the commission, the commission shall notify the applicant in writing, or make the information electronically available, within 30 days after receipt of the incomplete application, describing the deficiency and requesting the additional information. The determination of the completeness of an application does not operate as an approval of the application for the license and does not confer eligibility upon an applicant determined otherwise ineligible for issuance of a license. The 90-day period is tolled under any of the following circumstances:

(a) Notice sent by the commission of a deficiency in the application until the date all of the requested information is received by the commission.

(b) The time period during which actions required by a party other than the applicant or the commission are completed that include, but are not limited to, completion of construction or renovation of the licensed premises; mandated inspections by the commission or by any state, local, or federal agency; approval by the legislative body of a local unit of government; criminal history or criminal record checks; financial or court record checks; or other actions mandated by this act or rule or as otherwise mandated by law or local ordinance.

(4) If the commission fails to issue or deny a license within the time required by this section, the commission shall return the license fee and shall reduce the license fee for the applicant's next renewal application, if any, by 15%. The failure to issue a license within the time required under this section does not allow the commission to otherwise delay the processing of the application, and that application, upon completion, shall be placed in sequence with other completed applications received at that same time. The commission shall not discriminate against an applicant in the processing of the application based upon the fact that the license fee was refunded or discounted under this subsection.

(5) Beginning October 1, 2005, the chair of the commission shall submit a report by December 1 of each year to the standing committees and appropriations subcommittees of the senate and house of representatives concerned with liquor license issues. The chair of the commission shall include all of the following information in the report concerning the preceding fiscal year:

(a) The number of initial and renewal applications the commission received and completed within the 90-day time period described in subsection (3).

(b) The number of applications denied.

(c) The number of applicants not issued a license within the 90-day time period and the amount of money returned to licensees under subsection (4).

(6) As used in this section, "completed application" means an application complete on its face and submitted with any applicable licensing fees as well as any other information, records, approval, security, or similar item required by law or rule from a local unit of government, a federal agency, or a private entity but not from another department or agency of the state of Michigan.

Sec. 531. (1) A public license shall not be granted for the sale of alcoholic liquor for consumption on the premises in excess of 1 license for each 1,500 of population or major fraction thereof. On-premises escrowed licenses issued under this subsection may be transferred subject to local legislative approval under section 501(2) to an applicant whose proposed operation is located within any local governmental unit in a county in which the escrowed license was located. However, beginning July 8, 2004, and until July 1, 2009, if the on-premises escrowed license was issued to a location within a city with a population of over 190,000 but under 300,000, the on-premises escrowed license shall not be transferred to an applicant whose proposed operation is located within any other local governmental unit in the county in which that city is located and, in addition, an escrowed license located within any local governmental unit in that county is not transferable into the city with a population of over 190,000 but under 300,000. If the local governmental unit within which the former licensee's premises were located spans more than 1 county, an escrowed license is available subject to local legislative approval under section 501(2) to an applicant whose proposed operation is located within any local governmental unit in either county. If an escrowed license is activated within a local governmental unit other than that local governmental unit within which the escrowed license was originally issued, the commission shall count that activated license against the local governmental unit originally issuing the license. This quota does not bar the right of an existing licensee to renew a license or transfer the license and does not bar the right of an on-premise licensee of any class to reclassify to another class of on-premises license in a manner not in violation of law or this act, subject to the consent of the commission. The upgrading of a license resulting from a request under this subsection shall be approved by the local governmental unit having jurisdiction.

(2) In a resort area, the commission may issue 1 or more licenses for a period not to exceed 12 months without regard to a limitation because of population, but not in excess of 550, and with respect to the resort license the commission, by rule, shall define and classify resort seasons by months and may issue 1 or more licenses for resort seasons without regard to the calendar year or licensing year.

(3) In addition to the resort licenses authorized in subsection (2), the commission may issue not more than 5 additional licenses per year to establishments whose business and operation, as determined by the commission, is designed to attract and accommodate tourists and visitors to the resort area, whose primary purpose is not for the sale of alcoholic liquor, and whose capital investment in real property, leasehold improvement, and fixtures for the premises to be licensed is \$75,000.00 or more. Further, the commission shall issue 1 license under this subsection per year to an applicant located in a rural area that has a poverty rate, as defined by the latest decennial census, greater than the statewide average, or that is located in a rural area that has an unemployment rate higher than the statewide average for 3 of the 5 preceding years. In counties having a population of less than 50,000, as determined by the last federal decennial census or as determined pursuant to subsection (11) and subject to subsection (16) in the case of a class A hotel or a class B hotel, the commission shall not require the establishments to have dining facilities to seat more than 50 persons. The commission may cancel the license if the resort is no longer active or no longer qualifies for the license. Before January 16 of each year the commission shall transmit to the legislature a report giving details as to the number

of applications received under this subsection; the number of licenses granted and to whom; the number of applications rejected and the reasons; and the number of the licenses revoked, suspended, or other disciplinary action taken and against whom and the grounds for revocation, suspension, or disciplinary action.

(4) In addition to any licenses for the sale of alcoholic liquor for consumption on the premises that may be available in the local governmental unit under subsection (1) and the resort licenses authorized in subsections (2) and (3), the commission may issue not more than 15 resort economic development licenses per year. A person is eligible to apply for a resort economic development license under this subsection upon submitting an application to the commission and demonstrating all of the following:

(a) The establishment's business and operation, as determined by the commission, is designed to attract and accommodate tourists and visitors to the resort area.

(b) The establishment's primary business is not the sale of alcoholic liquor.

(c) The capital investment in real property, leasehold improvement, fixtures, and inventory for the premises to be licensed is in excess of \$1,500,000.00.

(d) The establishment does not allow or permit casino gambling on the premises.

(5) In governmental units having a population of 50,000 persons or less, as determined by the last federal decennial census or as determined pursuant to subsection (11), in which the quota of specially designated distributor licenses, as provided by section 533, has been exhausted, the commission may issue not more than a total of 10 additional specially designated distributor licenses per year to established merchants whose business and operation, as determined by the commission, is designed to attract and accommodate tourists and visitors to the resort area. A specially designated distributor license issued pursuant to this subsection may be issued at a location within 2,640 feet of existing specially designated distributor license locations. A specially designated distributor license issued pursuant to this subsection shall not bar another specially designated distributor licensee from transferring location to within 2,640 feet of said licensed location. A specially designated distributor license issued pursuant to section 533 may be located within 2,640 feet of a specially designated distributor license issued pursuant to this subsection.

(6) In addition to any licenses for the sale of alcoholic liquor for consumption on the premises that may be available in the local governmental unit under subsection (1), and the resort or resort economic development licenses authorized in subsections (2), (3), and (4), and notwithstanding section 519, the commission may issue not more than 5 additional special purpose licenses in any calendar year for the sale of beer and wine for consumption on the premises. A special purpose license issued pursuant to this subsection shall be issued only for events which are to be held from May 1 to September 30, are artistic in nature, and which are to be held on the campus of a public university with an enrollment of 30,000 or more students. A special purpose license shall be valid for 30 days or for the duration of the event for which it is issued, whichever is less. The fee for a special purpose license shall be \$50.00. A special purpose license may be issued only to a corporation which is all of the following:

(a) Is a nonprofit corporation organized pursuant to the nonprofit corporation act, 1982 PA 162, MCL 450.2101 to 450.3192.

(b) Has a board of directors constituted of members of whom half are elected by the public university at which the event is scheduled and half are elected by the local governmental unit.

(c) Has been in continuous existence for not less than 6 years.

(7) Notwithstanding the local legislative body approval provision of section 501(2) and notwithstanding the provisions of section 519, the commission may issue, without regard to the quota provisions of subsection (1) and with the approval of the governing board of the university, either a tavern or class C license which may be used only for regularly scheduled events at a public university's established outdoor program or festival at a facility on the campus of a public university having a head count enrollment of 10,000 students or more. A license issued under this subsection may only be issued to the governing board of a public university, a person that is the lessee or concessionaire of the governing board of the university, or both. A license issued under this subsection is not transferable as to ownership or location. A license issued under this subsection may not be issued at an outdoor stadium customarily used for intercollegiate athletic events.

(8) In issuing a resort or resort economic development license under subsection (3), (4), or (5), the commission shall consider economic development factors of the area in the issuance of licenses to establishments designed to stimulate and promote the resort and tourist industry. The commission shall not transfer a resort or resort economic development license issued under subsection (3), (4), or (5) to another location. If the licensee goes out of business the license shall be surrendered to the commission.

(9) The limitations and quotas of this section are not applicable to the issuance of a new license to a veteran of the armed forces of the United States who was honorably discharged or released under honorable conditions from the armed forces of the United States and who had by forced sale disposed of a similar license within 90 days before or after entering or while serving in the armed forces of the United States, as a part of the person's preparation for that service if the application for a new license is submitted for the same governmental unit in which the previous license was issued and within 60 days after the discharge of the applicant from the armed forces of the United States.

(10) The limitations and quotas of this section shall not be applicable to the issuance of a new license or the renewal of an existing license where the property or establishment to be licensed is situated in or on land on which an airport owned by a county or in which a county has an interest is situated.

(11) For purposes of implementing this section a special state census of a local governmental unit may be taken at the expense of the local governmental unit by the federal bureau of census or the secretary of state under section 6 of the home rule city act, 1909 PA 279, MCL 117.6. The special census shall be initiated by resolution of the governing body of the local governmental unit involved. The secretary of state may promulgate additional rules necessary for implementing this section pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

(12) Before granting an approval as required in section 501(2) for a license to be issued under subsection (2), (3), or (4), a local legislative body shall disclose the availability of transferable licenses held in escrow for more than 1 licensing year within that respective local governmental unit. Public notice of the meeting to consider the granting of the license by the local governmental unit shall be made 2 weeks before the meeting.

(13) The person signing the application for an on-premise resort or resort economic development license shall state and verify that he or she attempted to secure an on-premise escrowed license or quota license and that, to the best of his or her knowledge, an on-premise escrowed license or quota license is not readily available within the county in which the applicant for the on-premise resort or resort economic development license proposes to operate, except that until July 1, 2009, and in the case involving a city with a population of over 190,000 but under 300,000 that verification is not required.

(14) The commission shall not issue an on-premise resort or resort economic development license if the county within which the resort or resort economic development license applicant proposes to operate has not issued all on-premise licenses available under subsection (1) or if an on-premise escrowed license exists and is readily available within the local governmental unit in which the applicant for the on-premise resort or resort economic development license proposes to operate, except until July 1, 2009, in the case involving a city with a population of over 190,000 but under 300,000. The commission may waive the provisions of this subsection upon a showing of good cause.

(15) The commission shall annually report to the legislature the names of the businesses issued licenses under this section and their locations.

(16) The commission shall not require a class A hotel or a class B hotel licensed pursuant to subsection (2), (3), or (4) to provide food service to registered guests or to the public.

(17) Subject to the limitation and quotas of subsection (1) and to local legislative approval under section 501(2), the commission may approve the transfer of ownership and location of an on-premises escrowed license within the same county to a class G-1 or class G-2 license or may approve the reclassification of an existing on-premises license at the location to be licensed to a class G-1 license or to a class G-2 license, subject to subsection (1). Resort or economic development on-premises licenses created under subsection (3) or (4) may not be issued as, or reclassified to, a class G-1 or class G-2 license.

(18) As used in this section:

(a) "Escrowed license" means a license in which the rights of the licensee in the license or to the renewal of the license are still in existence and are subject to renewal and activation in the manner provided for in R 436.1107 of the Michigan administrative code.

(b) "Readily available" means available under a standard of economic feasibility, as applied to the specific circumstances of the applicant, that includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(i) The fair market value of the license, if determinable.

(ii) The size and scope of the proposed operation.

(iii) The existence of mandatory contractual restrictions or inclusions attached to the sale of the license.

Sec. 543. (1) Quarterly, upon recommendation of the commission, the state shall pay pursuant to appropriation in the manner prescribed by law to the city, village, or township in which a full-time police department or full-time ordinance enforcement department is maintained or, if a police department or full-time ordinance enforcement department is not maintained, to the county, to be credited to the sheriff's department of the county in which the licensed premises are located, 55% of the amount of the proceeds of the retailers' license fees and license renewal fees collected in that jurisdiction, for the specific purpose of enforcing this act and the rules promulgated under this act. Forty-one and one-half percent of the amount of the proceeds of retailers' license and license renewal fees collected shall be deposited in a special fund to be annually appropriated to the commission for carrying out the licensing and enforcement provisions of this act. Any unencumbered or uncommitted money in the special fund shall revert to the general fund of the state 12 months after the end of each fiscal year in which the funds were collected. The legislature shall appropriate 3-1/2% of the amount of the proceeds of retailers' license and license renewal fees collected to be credited to a special fund in the state treasury for the purposes of promoting and sustaining programs for the prevention, rehabilitation, care, and treatment of alcoholics. This subsection does not apply to retail license fees collected for railroad or Pullman cars, watercraft, or aircraft, or to the transfer fees provided in section 529.

(2) All license and license renewal fees, other than retail license and license renewal fees, shall be credited to the grape and wine industry council created in section 303, to be used as provided in section 303. Money credited to the grape and wine industry council shall not revert to the state general fund at the close of the fiscal year, but shall remain in the account to which it was credited to be used as provided in section 303.

(3) All retail license fees collected for railroad or Pullman cars, watercraft, or aircraft, and the transfer fees provided in section 529 shall be deposited in the special fund created in subsection (1) for carrying out the licensing and enforcement provisions of this act.

(4) The license fee enhancement imposed for licenses issued under section 531(3) and (4) shall be deposited into a special fund to be annually appropriated to the commission for enforcement and other related projects determined appropriate by the commission. The money representing that amount of the license fees for identical licenses not issued under section 531(3) and (4) shall be allocated and appropriated under subsection (1).

(5) As used in this section, "license fee enhancement" means the money representing the difference between the license fee imposed for a license under section 525(1) and the additional amount imposed for resort and resort economic development licenses under section 525(2).

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

Carol Morey Viventi

Secretary of the Senate

Sam E. Randall

Clerk of the House of Representatives

Approved

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Governor