

Act No. 315  
Public Acts of 2016  
Approved by the Governor  
November 2, 2016  
Filed with the Secretary of State  
November 3, 2016  
EFFECTIVE DATE: February 1, 2017

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
98TH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2016**

Introduced by Senator Schmidt

# **ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 981**

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 prohibit the use of certain devices for the dispensing of alcoholic vapor; 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 section 525 (MCL 436.1525), as amended by 2014 PA 353.

*The People of the State of Michigan enact:*

Sec. 525. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the following license fees must be paid at the time of filing applications or as otherwise provided in this act and are subject to allocation under section 543:

- (a) Manufacturers of spirits, 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 whether the location is 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 \$1.00 for each bedroom in excess of 20, but not more than \$500.00 total.

(m) Hotels of class B selling beer, wine, mixed spirit drink, and spirits, a minimum fee of \$600.00 and \$3.00 for each bedroom in excess of 20. If a hotel of class B sells beer, wine, mixed spirit drink, and spirits in more than 1 public bar, a fee of \$350.00 must be paid for each additional public bar, other than a bedroom.

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

(o) Class C license selling beer, wine, mixed spirit drink, and spirits, \$600.00. Subject to section 518(2), if a class C licensee sells beer, wine, mixed spirit drink, and spirits in more than 1 bar, a fee of \$350.00 must be paid for each additional bar. In municipally owned or supported facilities in which nonprofit organizations operate concession stands, a fee of \$100.00 must be paid for each additional bar.

(p) Clubs selling beer, wine, mixed spirit drink, and spirits, \$300.00 for clubs having 150 or fewer accredited members and \$1.00 for each member in excess of 150. Clubs shall submit a list of members by an affidavit 30 days before the closing of the license year. The affidavit must be used only for determining the license fees to be paid under this subdivision. 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 must not exceed \$750.00 for any 1 club.

(q) Warehouse, 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 the license or permit issued to a bona fide nonprofit association, organized and in continuous existence for 1 year before the filing of its application, is \$25.00. The commission shall not grant more than 12 special licenses 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.

(y) Motorsports event license, the amount as described and determined under section 518(2).

(z) Small distiller, \$100.00.

(aa) Wine auction license, \$50,000.00.

(bb) Nonpublic continuing care retirement center license, \$600.00.

(cc) Conditional license approved under subsection (6) and issued under subsection (7), \$300.00.

(2) The fees provided in this act for the various types of licenses must not be prorated for a portion of the effective period of the license. Notwithstanding subsection (1), the initial license fee for a license issued under section 531(3) or (4) is \$20,000.00. The renewal license fee is 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 July 20, 2005.

(3) If the commission requires an applicant to submit fingerprints, the applicant shall have the fingerprints taken by a local law enforcement agency, the department of state police, or any other person qualified to take fingerprints as determined by the department of state police. The applicant shall submit the fingerprints and the appropriate state and federal fees, which shall be borne by the applicant, to the department of state police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a criminal history check. After conducting the criminal history check, the department of state police shall provide the commission with a report of the criminal history check. The report must include criminal history record information concerning the person who is the subject of the criminal history check that is maintained by the department of state police. If a criminal arrest fingerprint card is subsequently submitted to the department of state police and matches against a fingerprint that was submitted under this act and stored in its automated fingerprint identification system (AFIS) database, the department of state police shall notify the commission.

(4) Except for a resort or resort economic development license issued under section 531(2), (3), (4), or (5) or a license issued under section 521a, the commission shall issue an initial or renewal license not later than 90 days after the applicant files a completed application. The application is considered to be received the date the application is received by an agency or department of this state. If the commission determines that an application is incomplete, 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 is not an approval of the application for the license and does not confer eligibility on an applicant determined otherwise ineligible for issuance of a license. The 90-day period is tolled for the following periods under any of the following circumstances:

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

(b) For the time required to complete actions required by a person, other than the applicant or the commission, including, but 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.

(5) 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 the application, on completion, must 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 because the license fee was refunded or discounted under this subsection.

(6) If, in addition to a completed application under this section, an applicant submits a separate form requesting a conditional license with an acceptable proof of financial responsibility form under section 803, an executed property document, and, for an application to transfer the location of an existing retailer license other than specially designated distributor license, a church or school proximity affidavit on a form prescribed by the commission attesting that the proposed location is not within 500 feet of a church or school building using the method of measurement required under section 503, the commission shall, after considering the arrest and conviction records or previous violation history in the management, operation, or ownership of a licensed business, approve or deny a conditional license. A conditional license issued under subsection (7) must only include any existing permits and approvals held in connection with the license, other than permits or approvals for which the conditional applicant does not meet the requirements in this act or rules promulgated under this act, or permits or approvals that the conditional applicant has requested to cancel as part of the application that serves as the basis for the conditional license. The commission shall not issue a new permit with a conditional license issued under subsection (7). The following applicants may request a conditional license:

(a) An applicant seeking to transfer ownership of an existing retailer license at the same location to sell alcoholic liquor for consumption on or off the premises.

(b) An applicant seeking to transfer the ownership and location of an existing retailer license, other than a specially designated distributor license, to sell alcoholic liquor for consumption on or off the premises.

(c) An applicant seeking a new specially designated merchant license not to be held in conjunction with a license for the sale of alcoholic liquor for consumption on the premises.

(7) The commission shall issue a conditional license to applicants approved under subsection (6) within 20 business days after receipt of a completed application and a completed conditional license request form and documentation for a conditional license at a single location. The commission may take up to 30 business days to issue conditional licenses to approved applicants seeking conditional licenses at multiple locations. Notwithstanding the applicant's submission of a church or school proximity affidavit under subsection (6), if the commission determines that a conditional license in conjunction with an application to transfer the location of an existing retailer license has been issued under this subsection at a proposed location that is within 500 feet of a church or school building, the commission shall suspend the conditional license and notify the church or school of the proposed location under the rules promulgated under this act. If the commission issues a conditional license under this subsection based on a church or school proximity affidavit under subsection (6) without knowledge that the representations included in the affidavit are incorrect, this state is not liable to any person for the commission's issuance of the conditional license. The commission may assume without inquiry the existence of the facts contained in the affidavit.

(8) A conditional license approved under subsection (6) and issued under subsection (7) is nontransferable and nonrenewable. A conditional licensee is required to comply with the server training requirements in section 501(1) beginning on the date a conditional license is issued under subsection (7) regardless of whether the conditional licensee is actively operating under the conditional license.

(9) A conditional license approved under subsection (6) and issued under subsection (7) expires when the first of the following occurs:

(a) The commission issues an order of denial of the license application that serves as the basis for the conditional license and all administrative remedies before the commission have been exhausted.

(b) The commission issues the license under subsection (4) for which the applicant submitted the license application that serves as the basis for the conditional license.

(c) The licensee or conditional licensee notifies the commission in writing that the initial or conditional application should be canceled.

(d) One year passes after the date the conditional license was issued, notwithstanding any suspension of the conditional license by the commission.

(10) If a conditional licensee fails to maintain acceptable proof of its financial responsibility as required under section 803, the commission shall summarily suspend the conditional license under section 92(2) of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.292, until the conditional licensee files an acceptable proof of financial responsibility form under section 803. If a conditional license is revoked, the conditional licensee shall not recover from this state or a unit of local government any compensation for property, future income, or future economic loss because of the revocation.

(11) On issuing a conditional license under subsection (7), the commission shall, until the conditional license expires under subsection (9), place the existing license under subsection (4) for which the applicant submitted the application that serves as the basis for the conditional license in escrow in compliance with R 436.1107 of the Michigan Administrative Code. If the conditional license expires under subsection (9), an existing licensee may do 1 of the following:

(a) Request that the commission release the license from escrow.

(b) Keep the license in escrow. The escrow date for compliance with R 436.1107 of the Michigan Administrative Code is the date the conditional license expires.

(12) 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 (4).

(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 (5).

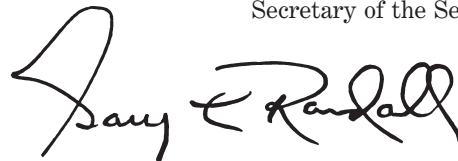
(13) As used in this section, "completed application" means an application complete on its face and submitted with any applicable licensing fees as well as any other information, records, approval, security, or similar item required by law or rule from a local unit of government, a federal agency, or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

Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days after the date it is enacted into law.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.



Secretary of the Senate



Clerk of the House of Representatives

Approved .....

.....  
Governor