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SENATE BILL NO. 809

Offered January 23, 2026

A BILL to amend and reenact § 4.1-206.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to alcoholic beverage control; manufacturer license; small commercial winery; sale at events.

Patron—Stuart

Referred to Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 4.1-206.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 4.1-206.1. Manufacturer licenses.

The Board may grant the following manufacturer licenses:

1. Distiller's licenses, which shall authorize the licensee to manufacture alcoholic beverages other than wine and beer, and to sell and deliver or ship the same, in accordance with Board regulations, in closed containers, to the Board and to persons outside the Commonwealth for resale outside the Commonwealth. When the Board has established a government store on the distiller's licensed premises pursuant to subsection D of § 4.1-119, such license shall also authorize the licensee to make a charge to consumers to participate in an organized tasting event conducted in accordance with subsection G of § 4.1-119 and Board regulations.

2. Limited distiller's licenses, to distilleries that (i) are located on a farm in the Commonwealth on land zoned agricultural and owned or leased by such distillery or its owner and (ii) use agricultural products that are grown on the farm in the manufacture of their alcoholic beverages. Limited distiller's licensees shall be treated as distillers for all purposes of this title except as otherwise provided in this subdivision. For purposes of this subdivision, "land zoned agricultural" means (a) land zoned as an agricultural district or classification or (b) land otherwise permitted by a locality for limited distillery use. For purposes of this subdivision, "land zoned agricultural" does not include land zoned "residential conservation." Except for the limitation on land zoned "residential conservation," nothing in this definition shall otherwise limit or affect local zoning authority.

3. Brewery licenses, which shall authorize the licensee to manufacture beer and to sell and deliver or ship the beer so manufactured, in accordance with Board regulations, in closed containers to (i) persons licensed to sell the beer at wholesale and (ii) persons outside the Commonwealth for resale outside the Commonwealth. Such license shall also authorize the licensee to sell at retail at premises described in the brewery license (a) the brands of beer that the brewery owns for on-premises consumption, provided that not less than 20 percent of the volume of beer sold for on-premises consumption in any calendar year is manufactured on the licensed premises, and (b) beer in closed containers, which shall include growlers and other reusable containers, for off-premises consumption.

4. Limited brewery licenses, to breweries that manufacture no more than 15,000 barrels of beer per calendar year, provided that (i) the brewery is located on a farm in the Commonwealth on land zoned agricultural and owned or leased by such brewery or its owner and (ii) agricultural products, including barley, other grains, hops, or fruit, used by such brewery in the manufacture of its beer are grown on the farm. The licensed premises shall be limited to the portion of the farm on which agricultural products, including barley, other grains, hops, or fruit, used by such brewery in the manufacture of its beer are grown and that is contiguous to the premises of such brewery where the beer is manufactured, exclusive of any residence and the curtilage thereof. However, the Board may, with notice to the local governing body in accordance with the provisions of § 4.1-230, also approve other portions of the farm to be included as part of the licensed premises. For purposes of this subdivision, "land zoned agricultural" means (a) land zoned as an agricultural district or classification or (b) land otherwise permitted by a locality for limited brewery use. For purposes of this subdivision, "land zoned agricultural" does not include land zoned "residential conservation." Except for the limitation on land zoned "residential conservation," nothing in this definition shall otherwise limit or affect local zoning authority.

Limited brewery licensees shall be treated as breweries for all purposes of this title except as otherwise provided in this subdivision.

5. Winery licenses, which shall authorize the licensee to (i) manufacture wine and to sell and deliver or ship such wine, in accordance with Board regulations, in closed containers, to persons licensed to sell the wine so manufactured at wholesale for the purpose of resale, and to persons outside the Commonwealth for resale outside the Commonwealth; (ii) operate distilling equipment on the premises of the licensee in the manufacture of spirits from fruit or fruit juices only, which shall be used only for the fortification of wine produced by the licensee; (iii) operate a contract winemaking facility on the premises of the licensee in accordance with Board regulations; (iv) store wine in bonded warehouses on or off the licensed premises

59 upon permit issued by the Board; and (v) sell wine at retail at the place of business designated in the winery
60 license for on-premises consumption or in closed containers for off-premises consumption, provided that any
61 brand of wine not owned by the winery licensee is purchased from a wholesale wine licensee and no less than
62 20 percent of the wine sold for on-premises consumption is manufactured on the licensed premises.

63 *For a small commercial winery, such license shall also authorize such winery to sell at retail wine
64 manufactured by such licensee, wine manufactured by a contract winemaking facility with which the licensee
65 has entered into an agreement pursuant to the provisions of this subtitle and Board regulations, and wine
66 purchased from a wholesale wine licensee at the site of an event licensed by the Board and conducted for the
67 purpose of featuring and educating the consuming public about wine. Such small commercial wineries shall
68 be limited to five events per year. For the purpose of this subdivision, "small commercial winery" means a
69 licensed winery that (i) produces, blends, bottles, or sells wine made primarily from grapes, juice, or wine
70 purchased from another licensed winery, farm winery, or contract winemaking facility; (ii) does not grow or
71 harvest grapes or other agricultural products used in the manufacture of the wine it sells; and (iii)
72 manufactures no more than 1,000 gallons of wine per calendar year.*

73 6. Farm winery licenses, which shall authorize the licensee to (i) manufacture wine containing 21 percent
74 or less of alcohol by volume and to sell, deliver, or ship such wine, in accordance with Board regulations, in
75 closed containers, to the Board, persons licensed to sell the wine so manufactured at wholesale for the
76 purpose of resale, or persons outside the Commonwealth; (ii) acquire and receive deliveries and shipments of
77 wine and sell and deliver or ship such wine, in accordance with Board regulations, to the Board, persons
78 licensed to sell wine at wholesale for the purpose of resale, or persons outside the Commonwealth; (iii)
79 operate a contract winemaking facility on the premises of the licensee in accordance with the provisions of
80 this subtitle and Board regulations; (iv) enter into an agreement with a contract winemaking facility in
81 accordance with the provisions of this subtitle and Board regulations; and (v) store wine in bonded
82 warehouses located on or off the licensed premises upon permits issued by the Board. For the purposes of this
83 title, a farm winery license shall be designated either as a Class I, Class II, Class III, or Class IV farm winery
84 license in accordance with the limitations set forth in § 4.1-219.

85 Such licenses shall also authorize the licensee to sell wine at retail for on-premises ~~consumptions~~
86 *consumption* or in closed containers for off-premises consumption at the places of business designated in the
87 licenses, which may include no more than five additional retail establishments of the licensee. The licensee
88 may sell at these places of business wine manufactured by such licensee, wine manufactured by a contract
89 winemaking facility with which the licensee has entered into an agreement pursuant to the provisions of this
90 subtitle and Board regulations, and wine purchased from a wholesale wine licensee. In addition, the licensee
91 may pre-mix wine and sell such wine at these places of business.

92 7. Wine importer's licenses, which shall authorize persons located within or outside the Commonwealth to
93 sell and deliver or ship wine, in accordance with Board regulations, in closed containers, to persons in the
94 Commonwealth licensed to sell such wine at wholesale for the purpose of resale, and to persons outside the
95 Commonwealth for resale outside the Commonwealth.

96 8. Beer importer's licenses, which shall authorize persons located within or outside the Commonwealth to
97 sell and deliver or ship beer, in accordance with Board regulations, in closed containers, to persons in the
98 Commonwealth licensed to sell such beer at wholesale for the purpose of resale and to persons outside the
99 Commonwealth for resale outside the Commonwealth.