

By the Committees on Fiscal Policy; and Regulated Industries;  
and Senator Bradley

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1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to alcoholic beverages and tobacco;  
3           amending s. 210.13, F.S.; revising applicability to  
4           include other persons who may be subject to a  
5           determination of tax on failure to file and return;  
6           amending s. 218.32, F.S.; requiring local governmental  
7           entities to include revenues derived from the use of  
8           temporary alcoholic beverage permits in annual  
9           financial reports; amending s. 561.01, F.S.; defining  
10          the term "railroad transit station"; amending s.  
11          561.29, F.S.; requiring, rather than authorizing, the  
12          Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco to give a  
13          licensee a written waiver of certain requirements;  
14          revising the requirements to obtain such waivers;  
15          extending a certain waiver period; deleting a  
16          provision prohibiting waiver periods from totaling  
17          more than 24 months; creating s. 561.4205, F.S.;  
18          requiring an alcoholic beverage distributor to charge  
19          a deposit for certain alcoholic beverage sales;  
20          providing an inventory and reconciliation process as  
21          an accounting alternative for specified vendors;  
22          providing an inventory and reconciliation process for  
23          malt beverage kegs; amending s. 561.422, F.S.;  
24          authorizing the division to issue temporary permits to  
25          municipalities and counties to sell alcoholic  
26          beverages for consumption on the premises of an event;  
27          authorizing the director of the division to issue more  
28          than three permits per calendar year under certain  
29          circumstances; providing conditions for such permits;  
30          requiring certain municipalities and counties to  
31          remove and properly dispose of unconsumed alcoholic

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32 beverages; amending s. 565.02, F.S.; authorizing  
33 operators of railroad transit stations to obtain  
34 licenses to sell alcoholic beverages; revising the  
35 locations where certain beverages may be sold;  
36 prohibiting the transfer of specified licenses to  
37 certain locations; prohibiting a municipality or  
38 county from requiring an additional license or levying  
39 a tax to sell certain beverages; exempting railroad  
40 transit stations from liquor bottle size restrictions;  
41 authorizing alcoholic beverages to be consumed in all  
42 areas within the property of a railroad transit  
43 station; defining terms; revising legislative  
44 findings; requiring permittees to submit a report to  
45 the division; providing requirements for the report;  
46 amending s. 565.04, F.S.; authorizing a licensed  
47 distributor to transport alcoholic beverages through  
48 certain premises under specified circumstances;  
49 providing an effective date.

50  
51 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

52  
53 Section 1. Section 210.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
54 read:

55 210.13 Determination of tax on failure to file a return.—If  
56 a dealer or other person required to remit the tax under this  
57 part fails to file any return required under this part, or  
58 having filed an incorrect or insufficient return, fails to file  
59 a correct or sufficient return, as the case may require, within  
60 10 days after the giving of notice to the dealer by the Division

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61 of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco that such return or corrected  
62 or sufficient return is required, the division shall determine  
63 the amount of tax due by such dealer any time within 3 years  
64 after the making of the earliest sale included in such  
65 determination and give written notice of such determination to  
66 such dealer. Such a determination shall finally and irrevocably  
67 fix the tax unless the dealer against whom it is assessed shall,  
68 within 30 days after the giving of notice of such determination,  
69 apply to the division for a hearing. Judicial review shall not  
70 be granted unless the amount of tax stated in the decision, with  
71 penalties thereon, if any, shall have been first deposited with  
72 the division, and an undertaking or bond filed in the court in  
73 which such cause may be pending in such amount and with such  
74 sureties as the court shall approve, conditioned that if such  
75 proceeding be dismissed or the decision of the division  
76 confirmed, the applicant for review will pay all costs and  
77 charges which may accrue against the applicant in the  
78 prosecution of the proceeding. At the option of the applicant,  
79 such undertaking or bond may be in an additional sum sufficient  
80 to cover the tax, penalties, costs, and charges aforesaid, in  
81 which event the applicant shall not be required to pay such tax  
82 and penalties precedent to the granting of such review by such  
83 court.

84 Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
85 218.32, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

86 218.32 Annual financial reports; local governmental  
87 entities.—

88 (1) (a) Each local governmental entity that is determined to  
89 be a reporting entity, as defined by generally accepted

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90 accounting principles, and each independent special district as  
91 defined in s. 189.012, shall submit to the department a copy of  
92 its annual financial report for the previous fiscal year in a  
93 format prescribed by the department. The annual financial report  
94 must include a list of each local governmental entity included  
95 in the report and each local governmental entity that failed to  
96 provide financial information as required by paragraph (b). The  
97 annual financial report must also include all revenues derived  
98 from the use of temporary permits obtained by a reporting entity  
99 pursuant to s. 561.422. The chair of the governing body and the  
100 chief financial officer of each local governmental entity shall  
101 sign the annual financial report submitted pursuant to this  
102 subsection attesting to the accuracy of the information included  
103 in the report. The county annual financial report must be a  
104 single document that covers each county agency.

105 Section 3. Subsection (22) is added to section 561.01,  
106 Florida Statutes, to read:

107 561.01 Definitions.—As used in the Beverage Law:

108 (22) "Railroad transit station" means a platform or a  
109 terminal facility where passenger trains operating on a guided  
110 rail system according to a fixed schedule between two or more  
111 cities regularly stop to load and unload passengers or goods.  
112 The term includes a passenger waiting lounge and dining, retail,  
113 entertainment, or recreational facilities within the premises  
114 owned or leased by the railroad operator or owner.

115 Section 4. Paragraphs (h) and (i) of subsection (1) of  
116 section 561.29, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

117 561.29 Revocation and suspension of license; power to  
118 subpoena.—

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119 (1) The division is given full power and authority to  
120 revoke or suspend the license of any person holding a license  
121 under the Beverage Law, when it is determined or found by the  
122 division upon sufficient cause appearing of:

123 (h) Failure by the holder of any license under s. 561.20(1)  
124 to maintain the licensed premises in an active manner in which  
125 the licensed premises are open for the bona fide sale of  
126 authorized alcoholic beverages during regular business hours of  
127 at least 6 hours a day for a period of 120 days or more during  
128 any 12-month period commencing 18 months after the acquisition  
129 of the license by the licensee, regardless of the date the  
130 license was originally issued. Every licensee must notify the  
131 division in writing of any period during which his or her  
132 license is inactive and place the physical license with the  
133 division to be held in an inactive status. The division shall,  
134 upon written request of the licensee, give a written waiver or  
135 extension of the requirement of this paragraph for a period not  
136 to exceed 12 months ~~may waive or extend the requirement of this~~  
137 ~~section upon the finding of hardship, including the purchase of~~  
138 ~~the license in order to transfer it to a newly constructed or~~  
139 ~~remodeled location. However, during such closed period, the~~  
140 ~~licensee shall make reasonable efforts toward restoring the~~  
141 ~~license to active status.~~ This paragraph shall apply to all  
142 annual license periods commencing on or after July 1, 1981, but  
143 shall not apply to licenses issued after September 30, 1988.

144 (i) Failure of any licensee issued a new or transfer  
145 license after September 30, 1988, under s. 561.20(1) to maintain  
146 the licensed premises in an active manner in which the licensed  
147 premises are open for business to the public for the bona fide

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148 retail sale of authorized alcoholic beverages during regular and  
149 reasonable business hours for at least 8 hours a day for a  
150 period of 210 days or more during any 12-month period commencing  
151 6 months after the acquisition of the license by the licensee.  
152 It is the intent of this act that for purposes of compliance  
153 with this paragraph, a licensee shall operate the licensed  
154 premises in a manner so as to maximize sales and tax revenues  
155 thereon; this includes maintaining a reasonable inventory of  
156 merchandise, including authorized alcoholic beverages, and the  
157 use of good business practices to achieve the intent of this  
158 law. Any attempt by a licensee to circumvent the intent of this  
159 law shall be grounds for revocation or suspension of the  
160 alcoholic beverage license. Every licensee must notify the  
161 division in writing of any period during which his or her  
162 license is inactive and place the physical license with the  
163 division to be held in an inactive status. The division shall  
164 ~~may~~, upon written request of the licensee, give a written waiver  
165 or extension of the this requirement of this paragraph for a  
166 period not to exceed 24 ~~12~~ months ~~in cases where the licensee~~  
167 ~~demonstrates that the licensed premises has been physically~~  
168 ~~destroyed through no fault of the licensee, when the licensee~~  
169 ~~has suffered an incapacitating illness or injury which is likely~~  
170 ~~to be prolonged, or when the licensed premises has been~~  
171 ~~prohibited from making sales as a result of any action of any~~  
172 ~~court of competent jurisdiction. Any waiver given pursuant to~~  
173 ~~this subsection may be continued upon subsequent written request~~  
174 ~~showing that substantial progress has been made toward restoring~~  
175 ~~the licensed premises to a condition suitable for the resumption~~  
176 ~~of sales or toward allowing for a court having jurisdiction over~~

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177 ~~the premises to release said jurisdiction, or that an~~  
178 ~~incapacitating illness or injury continues to exist. However, in~~  
179 ~~no event may the waivers necessitated by any one occurrence~~  
180 ~~cumulatively total more than 24 months. Every licensee shall~~  
181 ~~notify the division in writing of any period during which his or~~  
182 ~~her license is inactive and place the physical license with the~~  
183 ~~division to be held in an inactive status.~~

184 Section 5. Section 561.4205, Florida Statutes, is created  
185 to read:

186 561.4205 Keg deposits; limited alternative inventory and  
187 reconciliation process.—

188 (1) A distributor selling an alcoholic beverage to a vendor  
189 in bulk, by recyclable keg or other similar reusable container,  
190 for the purpose of sale in draft form on tap, must charge the  
191 vendor a deposit, to be referred to as a "keg deposit," in an  
192 amount not less than that charged to the distributor by the  
193 manufacturer for each keg or container of the beverage sold. The  
194 deposit amount charged to a vendor for a draft keg or container  
195 of a like brand must be uniform. Charges made for deposits  
196 collected or credits allowed for empty kegs or containers  
197 returned must be shown separately on all sale tickets or  
198 invoices. A copy of such sales tickets or invoices must be given  
199 to the vendor at the time of delivery.

200 (2) In lieu of receiving a keg deposit, a distributor  
201 selling alcoholic beverages by recyclable keg or other similar  
202 reusable container for the purpose of sale in draft form to a  
203 vendor identified in s. 561.01(18) or s. 565.02(6) or (7) shall  
204 implement an inventory and reconciliation process with such  
205 vendor in which an accounting of kegs is completed and any loss

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206 or variance in the number of kegs is paid for by the vendor on a  
207 per-keg basis equivalent to the required keg deposit. This  
208 inventory and reconciliation process may occur twice per year,  
209 at the discretion of the distributor, but must occur at least  
210 annually. Upon completion of an agreed upon keg inventory and  
211 reconciliation, the vendor shall remit payment within 15 days  
212 after receiving an invoice from the distributor. The vendor may  
213 choose to establish and fund a separate account with the  
214 distributor for the purpose of expediting timely payments.

215 Section 6. Section 561.422, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
216 read

217 561.422 Municipalities, counties, and nonprofit civic  
218 organizations; temporary permits.-

219 (1) Upon the filing of an application, presentation of a  
220 local building and zoning permit, and payment of a fee of \$25  
221 per permit, the director of the division may issue a permit  
222 authorizing a municipality, a county, or a ~~bona fide~~ nonprofit  
223 civic organization to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption  
224 on the premises of an event only, for a period not to exceed 3  
225 days, subject to any state law or municipal or county ordinance  
226 regulating the time for selling such beverages. All net profits  
227 from sales of alcoholic beverages collected during the permit  
228 period must be retained by the municipality, county, or  
229 nonprofit civic organization. Any such municipality, county, or  
230 nonprofit civic organization may be issued only three such  
231 permits per calendar year; however, the director of the division  
232 may issue more than three permits per calendar year to a  
233 municipality or county if such permits are for events that have  
234 been authorized by a majority vote of the governing body of the

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235 municipality or county at a duly noticed public meeting. The  
236 sworn application filed by a municipality or county for a  
237 temporary permit under this section must be signed by the chief  
238 executive officer of the municipality or county.

239 (2) Notwithstanding other provisions of the Beverage Law,  
240 any municipality, county, or nonprofit civic organization  
241 licensed under this section may purchase alcoholic beverages  
242 from a distributor or vendor licensed under the Beverage Law.

243 (3) All alcoholic beverages purchased for sale by a  
244 municipality or county which remain unconsumed after an event  
245 must be removed from the premises where the event is held and  
246 properly disposed of by the municipality or county.

247 Section 7. Subsections (2) and (9) of section 565.02,  
248 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

249 565.02 License fees; vendors; clubs; caterers; and others.-

250 (2)(a) Any operator of railroad transit stations,  
251 railroads, or sleeping cars in this state may obtain a license  
252 to sell the beverages mentioned in the Beverage Law ~~on passenger~~  
253 ~~trains~~ upon the payment of an annual license tax of \$2,500, ~~the~~  
254 ~~tax to be paid~~ to the division. ~~The~~ Such license is good  
255 throughout the state and authorizes ~~shall authorize~~ the licensee  
256 ~~holder thereof~~ to keep for sale and to sell all beverages  
257 mentioned in the Beverage Law ~~on~~ upon any dining, club, parlor,  
258 buffet, or observation car or within the property of a railroad  
259 transit station operated by the licensee. ~~it in this state, but~~  
260 Such beverages may be sold only to passengers on such ~~upon the~~  
261 cars or within the property of the railroad transit station and  
262 must be served for consumption thereon. Licenses issued pursuant  
263 to this paragraph for railroad transit stations may not be

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264 transferred to locations beyond the premises of the railroad  
265 transit station. A municipality or county may not require an  
266 additional license or levy a tax for the privilege of selling  
267 such beverages.

268 (b) Except for alcoholic beverages sold within the property  
269 of a railroad transit station, it is unlawful for such licensees  
270 to purchase or sell any liquor except in miniature bottles of  
271 not more than 2 ounces. ~~Every such license shall be good~~  
272 ~~throughout the state. No license shall be required, or tax~~  
273 ~~levied by any municipality or county, for the privilege of~~  
274 ~~selling such beverages for consumption in such cars. Such~~  
275 beverages ~~may shall~~ be sold only on cars in which ~~are posted~~  
276 certified copies of the licenses issued to ~~the such~~ operator ~~are~~  
277 ~~posted.~~ ~~Such~~ Certified copies of such licenses shall be issued  
278 by the division upon the payment of a tax of \$10.

279 (c) A limitation of the number of licenses issued pursuant  
280 to this section does not prohibit the issuance of a license  
281 authorized by the Beverage Law or a special license issued  
282 pursuant to s. 561.20 to operators of restaurants, shops, or  
283 other facilities that are part of, or that serve, railroad  
284 transit stations. The alcoholic beverages sold by a licensed  
285 operator may be consumed in all areas within the property of the  
286 railroad transit station as defined in s. 561.01(22).

287 (9)(a) As used in this subsection, the term:

288 1. "Annual capacity" means an amount equal to the number of  
289 lower berths on a vessel multiplied by the number of  
290 embarkations of that vessel during a calendar year.

291 2. "Base rate" means an amount equal to the total excise  
292 taxes and surcharges paid by all permittees pursuant to this

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293 subsection for sales of alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, and  
294 other tobacco products taking place between January 1, 2015, and  
295 December 31, 2015, inclusive, divided by the sum of the annual  
296 capacity of all vessels permitted pursuant to this subsection  
297 for the 2015 calendar year.

298 3. "Embarkation" means an instance where a vessel departs  
299 from a port in Florida.

300 4. "Lower berth" means a bed that is:

301 a. Affixed to a vessel;

302 b. Not located above another bed in the same cabin; and

303 c. Located in a cabin not in use by employees of the  
304 operator of the vessel or its contractors.

305 5. "Quarterly capacity" means an amount equal to the number  
306 of lower berths on a vessel multiplied by the number of  
307 embarkations of that vessel during a calendar quarter.

308 (b) It is the finding of the Legislature that passenger  
309 vessels engaged exclusively in foreign commerce are susceptible  
310 to a distinct and separate classification for purposes of the  
311 sale of alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, and other tobacco  
312 products under the Beverage Law and chapter 210.

313 (c) Upon the filing of an application and payment of an  
314 annual fee of \$1,100, the director is authorized to issue a  
315 permit authorizing the operator, or, if applicable, his or her  
316 concessionaire, of a passenger vessel which has cabin-berth  
317 capacity for at least 75 passengers, and which is engaged  
318 exclusively in foreign commerce, to sell alcoholic beverages,  
319 cigarettes, and other tobacco products on the vessel for  
320 consumption on board only:

321 1. ~~(a)~~ During a period not in excess of 24 hours prior to

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322 departure while the vessel is moored at a dock or wharf in a  
323 port of this state; or

324 2.~~(b)~~ At any time while the vessel is located in Florida  
325 territorial waters and is in transit to or from international  
326 waters.

327  
328 One such permit shall be required for each such vessel and shall  
329 name the vessel for which it is issued. No license shall be  
330 required or tax levied by any municipality or county for the  
331 privilege of selling beverages, cigarettes, or other tobacco  
332 products for consumption on board such vessels. The beverages,  
333 cigarettes, or other tobacco products so sold may be purchased  
334 outside the state by the permittee, and the same shall not be  
335 considered as imported for the purposes of s. 561.14(3) solely  
336 because of such sale. The permittee is not required to obtain  
337 its beverages, cigarettes, or other tobacco products from  
338 licensees under the Beverage Law or chapter 210. Each permittee,  
339 ~~but it~~ shall keep a strict account of the quarterly capacity of  
340 each of its vessels ~~all such beverages sold within this state~~  
341 and shall make quarterly ~~monthly~~ reports to the division on  
342 forms prepared and furnished by the division. ~~A permittee who~~  
343 ~~sells on board the vessel beverages withdrawn from United States~~  
344 ~~Bureau of Customs and Border Protection bonded storage on board~~  
345 ~~the vessel may satisfy such accounting requirement by supplying~~  
346 ~~the division with copies of the appropriate United States Bureau~~  
347 ~~of Customs and Border Protection forms evidencing such~~  
348 ~~withdrawals as importations under United States customs laws.~~

349 (d) Each ~~Such~~ permittee shall pay to the state an excise  
350 tax for beverages and an excise tax and surcharge for cigarettes

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351 and other tobacco products sold pursuant to this subsection  
352 section, if such excise taxes and surcharge have ~~tax has~~ not  
353 previously been paid, ~~in an amount equal to the tax which would~~  
354 ~~be required to be paid on such sales by a licensed manufacturer~~  
355 ~~or distributor~~. The excise taxes and surcharge must be an amount  
356 equal to the base rate multiplied by the permittee's quarterly  
357 capacity during the calendar quarter.

358 (e) A vendor holding such permit shall pay the tax  
359 quarterly ~~monthly~~ to the division at the same time he or she  
360 furnishes the required report. Such report shall be filed on or  
361 before the 15th day of each quarter ~~month~~ for the quarterly  
362 capacity sales occurring during the previous calendar quarter  
363 ~~month~~.

364 (f) No later than August 1, 2016, each permittee shall  
365 report the annual capacity for each of its vessels for calendar  
366 year 2015 to the division on forms prepared and furnished by the  
367 division. No later than September 1, 2016, the division shall  
368 calculate the base rate and report it to each permittee. The  
369 department shall publish the base rate in the Florida  
370 Administrative Register and on the department's website.

371 Section 8. Section 565.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
372 read:

373 565.04 Package store restrictions.—

374 (1) Vendors licensed under s. 565.02(1)(a) shall not in  
375 said place of business sell, offer, or expose for sale any  
376 merchandise other than such beverages, and such places of  
377 business shall be devoted exclusively to such sales; provided,  
378 however, that such vendors shall be permitted to sell bitters,  
379 grenadine, nonalcoholic mixer-type beverages (not to include

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380 fruit juices produced outside this state), fruit juices produced  
381 in this state, home bar, and party supplies and equipment  
382 (including but not limited to glassware and party-type foods),  
383 miniatures of no alcoholic content, and tobacco products. Such  
384 places of business shall have no openings permitting direct  
385 access to any other building or room, except to a private office  
386 or storage room of the place of business from which patrons are  
387 excluded.

388 (2) Notwithstanding any other law, when delivering  
389 alcoholic beverages to a vendor licensed under s. 565.02(1)(a),  
390 a licensed distributor may transport the beverages through  
391 another premises owned in whole or in part by the vendor.

392 Section 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

393