

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Regulated Industries

BILL: CS/SB 296

INTRODUCER: Regulated Industries Committee and Senator Brandes

SUBJECT: Beverage Law

DATE: December 7, 2017 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Oxamendi	McSwain	RI	Fav/CS
2.			CM	
3.			RC	

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SB 296 repeals the limits on the size of a wine container, which in current law may not hold more than one gallon, unless the container is reusable and holds 5.16 gallons.

The bill also repeals the limits on the size of a cider container, which in current law may not hold more than 32 ounces of cider. However, current law permits cider to be packaged and sold in bulk, in kegs or barrels, or in any individual container of one gallon or more of cider, regardless of container type.

The bill amends the current provision that permits a restaurant patron to take home a partially consumed bottle of wine under certain conditions, to revise the requirement that a restaurant patron must purchase and consume a full course meal (consisting of an entrée, salad or vegetable, beverage, and bread) in order to be able to take home a partially consumed bottle of wine. The bill replaces that requirement with a requirement that a restaurant patron purchase only a meal with the bottle of wine.

The effective date of the bill is July 1, 2018.

II. Present Situation:

Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco

The Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco (division)¹ within the Department of Business and Professional Regulation administers and enforces the Beverage Law,² which regulates the manufacture, distribution, and sale of wine, beer, and liquor. The division is also responsible for the administration and enforcement of tobacco products under ch. 569, F.S.

Wine and Cider Containers

Section 564.05, F.S., prohibits the sale of wine in an individual container that holds more than one gallon of wine. However, wine may be sold in a reusable container of 5.16 gallons. Distributors and manufacturers may sell wine to other distributors and manufacturers in containers of any size. Any person who violates the prohibition in s. 564.05, F.S., commits a second degree misdemeanor.³

Section 564.055, F.S., prohibits the sale of cider⁴ at retail in any individual container of more than 32 ounces of cider. However, cider may be packaged and sold in bulk, in kegs or barrels, or in any individual container of one gallon or more of cider, regardless of container type.

Restaurants - Off-Premises Consumption of Wine

Restaurants licensed to sell wine on the premises may permit patrons to remove one bottle of wine for consumption off the licensed premises under the following conditions:

- The patron must have purchased a full-course meal consisting of a salad or vegetable, entrée, a beverage, and bread and consumed a portion of the bottle of wine with the meal;
- Before the partially-consumed bottle of wine is removed from the premises, the bottle must be securely resealed by the licensee, or the licensee's employee, and placed in a bag or other container that is secured in such a manner that it is visibly apparent if the container has been opened or tampered with after having been sealed;
- A dated receipt for the wine and meal must be attached to the container; and
- The container must be placed in a locked glove compartment, trunk, or other area behind the last upright seat of a motor vehicle that does not have a trunk.⁵

¹ Section 561.02, F.S. Section 561.01(6), F.S., provides that the "Beverage Law" means chs. 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 567, and 568, F.S.

² See s. 561.14, F.S.

³ Section 775.082, F.S., provides the penalty for a misdemeanor of the second degree is a term of imprisonment not exceeding 60 days. Section 775.083, F.S., provides the penalty for a misdemeanor of the second degree is a fine not to exceed \$500.

⁴ Section 564.06(4), F.S., provides that "cider" is "made from the normal alcoholic fermentation of the juice of sound, ripe apples or pears, including but not limited to flavored, sparkling, or carbonated cider and cider made from condensed apple or pear must, that contain not less than one-half of 1 percent of alcohol by volume and not more than 7 percent of alcohol by volume." "Must" is the expressed juice of a fruit before and during fermentation. See <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/must> (last visited December 6, 2017).

⁵ Section 564.09, F.S.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**Wine Containers**

Section 1 repeals the wine container size limits in s. 564.05, F.S.

Cider Containers

Section 2 repeals the cider container size limits in s. 564.055, F.S.

Restaurants - Off-Premises Consumption of Wine and Beer

Section 3 amends s. 564.09, F.S., to revise the requirement that a restaurant patron must purchase and consume a full course meal in order to be able to take home a partially consumed bottle of wine. The bill retains the requirement that the restaurant patron purchase a meal with the bottle of wine.

Effective Date

Section 4 provides the bill takes effect July 1, 2018.

IV. Constitutional Issues:**A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

The provisions repealing the limits on the size of wine containers and revising the conditions under which a restaurant patron may be permitted to take home a partially consumer bottle of wine in CS/SB 296 are substantively identical to provisions in CS/CS/SB 388 (2017 Regular Session), by the Rules Committee, Regulated Industries Committee, and Senator Hutson, which were amended onto the bill by the Rules Committee and passed by the Senate.⁶ The provisions in SB 296 also were passed by the Regulated Industries Committee in CS/SB 400 during the 2017 Regular Session.⁷

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill repeals the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 564.05 and 564.055.

This bill substantially amends section 564.09 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Regulated Industries Committee on December 7, 2017:

The committee substitute:

- Removes from the bill the provision permitting the sale of cider in 32 ounce, 64 ounce, or one gallon growlers in the same manner and with the same restrictions applicable to malt beverages;
- Repeals s. 564.055, F.S., relating to the container size limitations for cider; and
- Removes from the bill the provision that would permit a restaurant patron to take home a partially consumed and resealed bottle of beer.

- B. **Amendments:**

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

⁶ See Amendment #379250 (2017 Regular Session) offered by Senator Brandes in the Rules Committee on April 12, 2017. The Senate passed CS/CS/SB 388 on April 19, 2017, by a vote of 36-1. (Subsequently, CS/CS/SB 388 was amended by the House of Representatives to remove provisions unrelated to provisions in SB 296 and died in Returning Messages.)

⁷ See Substitute Amendment #323682 and Amendment #193132 to Substitute Amendment #323682 (both offered by Senator Brandes) to SB 400 by Senator Perry, which were adopted by the Regulated Industries Committee on March 16, 2016. (Those provisions subsequently were removed from CS/CS/SB 400 by Amendment #887606 offered by Senator Perry, which was adopted by the Senate on April 27, 2017. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2017 Regular Session) was substituted for CS/CS/SB 400 and CS/CS/SB 400 then was laid on the table. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 was enacted into law as Ch. 2017-137, Laws of Fla.)