

One Hundred Fourth Legislature - Second Session - 2016

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB1105

Chairperson: Senator Tyson Larson

Committee: General Affairs

Date of Hearing: February 01, 2016

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 1105 contains the following changes to the Liquor Control Act:

1. Establishes the Nebraska Craft Brewery Board;
2. Strikes the requirement of a kitchen in the definition of a club;
3. Three technical changes at the request of the Liquor Control Commission that harmonizes the excise tax rate in 53-178, makes the statute applicable to wholesale and manufacturing licensees, not just retail licensees, and eliminates an exception in 53-175 that is not used and has been confusing for licensees;
4. Strikes the prohibition on "other fruit product nor any artificial product which imparts a fruit flavor other than apple" in the hard cider definition;
5. Amends the craft brewery license to address the issues and concerns of craft brewers who could exceed the current 20,000-barrel limit;
6. Establishes a liquor license class for small boutiques to sell a limited amount of alcohol;
7. Eliminates the requirement that a licensee shall reapply for its license because the licensee's location was annexed by an adjacent municipality;
8. Allows employees that are at least 16 years of age to ring up tickets such as at a restaurant where the ticket includes alcohol purchases as long as the employee doesn't handle the alcohol. It also allows an employee between the ages of 16 and 19 to handle alcohol if he or she has taken a Liquor Control Commission approved server training course;
9. Increases the penalty for the illegal manufacturing of spirits; and
10. Repeals the prohibition on pull tabs/pull tops on soda and beer cans;

Additionally, the bill contains a severability clause and an emergency clause.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Tyson Larson