

May 9, 1973

124-03 you eliminate the restriction on the number of licenses that can be issued to a restaurant on-sale for beer only. This does not permit the off-sale of intoxicating liquor in original packages. The purpose of course, there are many franchises now and you probably know--Shakeys and 9 or 10 other franchises--whose stock and trade and reason to exist is because they serve beer along with pizzas and other items of food. The present law precludes that anybody cannot have more than two licenses. This law would eliminate that requirement only insofar as beer on sale is concerned and only in a restaurant. We think this brings this thing up to the modern day of the acceptance of those people who sell pizzas and various other types of food. The next item provides for a dispenser which we may or may attempt to strike out. If you'll go on page 21, what this does as it now exists in law, it makes it possible for those who might be decided by the Commission to have a case heard in the county in which the infraction occurs. This would change that to the point that all the complaints would be filed in Lancaster County, that is reasonably nominal and many other types of actions of a similar nature. But it would eliminate the infraction being heard in the county in the area in which they might occur. So that is a change that you should be alerted to. And on page 23 it's more of the same thing. Now again on page 23 in section 14 that has to do with dispensers again and it makes the exception so that the dispenser if it's carried in the law, makes the exception of those people who work in a store in order to carry out beer out to the car of a customer that might desire to have that type of a service. In section 15 it's a further enlargement of the assistance and the responsibility of the Liquor Commission in which it authorizes the hiring of five more agents and it also suggests, allows the agents to assist and cooperate with other agencies of undercover agents regulating the liquor control agents and also in the area of the drug problem. Now strangely I've been advised by people who have the responsibility to know that through the growing use of particularly marijuana and some other drugs in the area of particularly Class C license and that would of nature I presume naturally follow. To the extent that it exists, I do not know. The Commission has some concern to the point that they feel that it's increasing rather than diminishing and they feel that the inspectors they have should have the responsibility and the right to detect this type of a disagreeable business and they can either by themselves in cooperation with others arrest these people in order to bring them to the attention of the law. And also the bill has been changed, you've gotten a lot of complaints I'm sure, by a provision in the original law which said that a man who had a Class C license could not sell off-sale. That has been taken out of the bill and the law remains as it was prior to the introduction of this bill. So any man who has a Class C license which means liquor by the drink can also sell off-sale liquor in the original containers. I know there was a lot of people who complained about that and I presume rightfully so. The hearing and the committee listened to them and they made the change. Now there's also one other change in this bill which says, the commission has quite a problem in the area of those people who ask for licenses in that sometimes a wife obtains a license for her husband who's not qualified to get a license and vice versa. Now this precludes and prohibits that but it does nothing to the licenses which already are now in existence in that category. But if they reapply and if they are in conflict with the intent of the law, I'm sure they'll not get a license. Now that's all I have to say. Senator DeCamp can speak for himself. He has some objections which he just brought up and I can understand some of his problems and he can speak for himself if he so desires at this time. That's all I have to say on the bill. I move the bill be advanced from General File to E & R for Initial.