
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LIQUOR LICENSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that patrons leaving a
2 liquor establishment can adversely affect neighboring residents
3 and users of nearby public facilities. The legislature enacted
4 section 281-39.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which allows for the
5 denial or restriction of liquor licenses for certain
6 establishments near schools or parks, to promote an environment
7 in which alcohol imbibing patrons do not interfere with minors
8 or other residents. The legislature further finds that
9 section 281-39.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, currently applies
10 only to the issuance of new liquor licenses, but not the renewal
11 of current licenses, thus creating a safe harbor for existing
12 establishments seeking a renewal of their liquor license.
13 Although registered voters within five hundred feet of a liquor
14 establishment may not be inclined to protest the initial
15 issuance of a liquor license, they may wish to do so when the
16 license becomes subject to renewal and they have learned more
17 about the establishment.



1 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to provide
2 communities the opportunity to protest the renewal of certain
3 liquor licenses.

4 SECTION 2. Section 281-39.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:


6 "(b) This section shall apply [~~only~~] to both the issuance
7 of new liquor licenses, and the renewal of existing liquor
8 licenses, for on-site sale and consumption by the drink [~~and not~~
9 ~~to any renewal of such licenses~~]."

10 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
11 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
12 begun before its effective date.

13 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 5 This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

16

INTRODUCED BY: 

JAN 23 2024



H.B. NO. 2525

Report Title:

Liquor Licenses; Renewal; Protest; Denial

Description:

Provides that the Liquor Commission or other licensing agency of each county shall deny the renewal of certain current liquor licenses upon receipt of sufficient protests.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

