



House of Representatives

File No. 582

General Assembly

January Session, 2013

(Reprint of File No. 172)

Substitute House Bill No. 6212
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
April 18, 2013

AN ACT CONCERNING WINE TASTING AT PACKAGE STORES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 30-20 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (a) A package store permit shall allow the retail sale of alcoholic
5 liquor not to be consumed on the premises, such sales to be made only
6 in sealed bottles or other containers. The holder of a package store
7 permit may, in accordance with regulations adopted by the
8 Department of Consumer Protection pursuant to the provisions of
9 chapter 54, offer free samples of alcoholic liquor for tasting on the
10 premises, conduct fee-based wine education and tasting classes and
11 demonstrations and conduct tastings or demonstrations provided by a
12 permittee or backer of a package store for a nominal charge to
13 charitable nonprofit organizations. Any offering, tasting, wine
14 education and tasting class or demonstration held on permit premises
15 shall be conducted only during the hours a package store is permitted

16 to sell alcoholic liquor under section 30-91. No tasting of wine on the
17 premises shall be offered from more than ten uncorked bottles at any
18 one time. No store operating under a package store permit shall sell
19 any commodity other than alcoholic liquor except that,
20 notwithstanding any other provision of law, such store may sell (1)
21 cigarettes, (2) publications, (3) bar utensils, which shall include, but
22 need not be limited to, corkscrews, beverage strainers, stirrers or other
23 similar items used to consume or related to the consumption of
24 alcoholic liquor, (4) gift packages of alcoholic liquor shipped into the
25 state by a manufacturer or out-of-state shipper, which may include a
26 nonalcoholic item in the gift package that may be any item, except food
27 or tobacco products, provided the dollar value of the nonalcoholic
28 items does not exceed the dollar value of the alcoholic items of the
29 package, (5) complementary fresh fruits used in the preparation of
30 mixed alcoholic beverages, (6) cheese or crackers, or both, olives, (7)
31 nonalcoholic beverages, (8) concentrates used in the preparation of
32 mixed alcoholic beverages, (9) beer and wine-making kits and
33 products related to beer and wine-making kits, (10) ice in any form,
34 (11) articles of clothing imprinted with advertising related to the
35 alcoholic liquor industry, (12) gift baskets or other containers of
36 alcoholic liquor, (13) multiple packages of alcoholic liquors, as defined
37 in subdivision (3) of section 30-1, provided in all such cases the
38 minimum retail selling price for such alcoholic liquor shall apply, and
39 (14) lottery tickets authorized by the Department of Consumer
40 Protection, if licensed as an agent to sell such tickets by said
41 department. A package store permit shall also allow the taking and
42 transmitting of orders for delivery of such merchandise in other states.
43 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a package store permit
44 shall allow the participation in any lottery ticket promotion or
45 giveaway sponsored by the Department of Consumer Protection. The
46 annual fee for a package store permit shall be five hundred thirty-five
47 dollars.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	30-20(a)

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

There is no fiscal impact to the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) to amend existing regulations to increase the maximum number of allowable open bottles of wine for package store tastings from four to 10 uncorked bottles at one time as the agency has expertise in the area and already regulates and monitors such entities.

House "A" (LCO 5597) is technical and results in no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6212 (as amended by House "A")******AN ACT CONCERNING WINE TASTING AT PACKAGE STORES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill increases, from four to 10, the maximum number of open bottles of wine allowed at package store wine tastings at any one time. Current regulations limit the maximum number to four (Conn. Agencies Reg. § 30-6-B21a(a)(5)).

*House Amendment "A" replaces the underlying bill that would have increased the allowable bottles by regulation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND***Wine Tasting at Package Stores***

By law, package stores, on their premises, may offer free alcoholic liquor samples for tasting or conduct fee-based wine education and tasting classes and demonstrations. By regulation, these tastings must be held between noon and 8:00 p.m., but cannot be held during times when off-premises alcohol sales are prohibited (e.g., New Year's Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and after 5:00 p.m. on Sundays). By regulation, tastings must not exceed the following amounts per patron: one half ounce for liquor, one ounce for wine, and two ounces for beer.

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/12/2013)