



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 153

January Session, 2013

Senate Bill No. 881

Senate, March 26, 2013

The Committee on General Law reported through SEN. DOYLE of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING FARM WINERIES.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (e) of section 30-16 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (e) (1) A manufacturer permit for a farm winery shall be in all
5 respects the same as a manufacturer permit, except that the scope of
6 operations of the holder shall be limited to wine and brandies distilled
7 from grape products or other fruit products, including grappa and
8 eau-de-vie. As used in this section, "farm winery" means any place or
9 premises, located on a farm in the state in which wine is manufactured
10 and sold.

11 (2) Such permit shall, at the single principal premises of the farm
12 winery, authorize (A) the sale in bulk by the holder thereof from the
13 premises where the products are manufactured pursuant to such
14 permit; (B) as to a manufacturer who produces one hundred thousand

15 gallons of wine or less per year, the sale and shipment by the holder
16 thereof to a retailer of wine manufactured by the farm winery
17 permittee in the original sealed containers of not more than fifteen
18 gallons per container; (C) the sale and shipment by the holder thereof
19 of wine manufactured by the farm winery permittee to persons outside
20 the state; (D) the offering and tasting of free samples of such wine or
21 brandy to visitors and prospective retail customers for consumption on
22 the premises of the farm winery permittee; (E) the sale at retail from
23 the premises of sealed bottles or other sealed containers of such wine
24 or brandy for consumption off the premises; (F) the sale at retail from
25 the premises of wine or brandy by the glass and bottle to visitors on
26 the premises of the farm winery permittee for consumption on the
27 premises; and (G) subject to the provisions of subdivision (3) of this
28 subsection, the sale and delivery or shipment of wine manufactured by
29 the permittee directly to a consumer in this state. Notwithstanding the
30 provisions of subparagraphs (D), (E) and (F) of this subdivision, a
31 town may, by ordinance or zoning regulation, prohibit any such
32 offering, tasting or selling at retail at premises within such town for
33 which a manufacturer permit for a farm winery has been issued.

34 (3) A permittee, when selling and shipping wine directly to a
35 consumer in this state, shall: (A) Ensure that the shipping labels on all
36 containers of wine shipped directly to a consumer in this state
37 conspicuously state the following: "CONTAINS ALCOHOL—
38 SIGNATURE OF A PERSON AGE 21 OR OLDER REQUIRED FOR
39 DELIVERY"; (B) obtain the signature of a person age twenty-one or
40 older at the address prior to delivery, after requiring the signer to
41 demonstrate that he or she is age twenty-one or older by providing a
42 valid motor vehicle operator's license or a valid identity card described
43 in section 1-1h; (C) not ship more than five gallons of wine in any two-
44 month period to any person in this state; (D) pay, to the Department of
45 Revenue Services, all sales taxes and alcoholic beverage taxes due
46 under chapters 219 and 220 on sales of wine to consumers in this state,
47 and file, with said department, all sales tax returns and alcoholic
48 beverage tax returns relating to such sales; (E) report to the
49 Department of Consumer Protection a separate and complete record of

50 all sales and shipments to consumers in the state, on a ledger sheet or
51 similar form which readily presents a chronological account of such
52 permittee's dealings with each such consumer; (F) not ship to any
53 address in the state where the sale of alcoholic liquor is prohibited by
54 local option pursuant to section 30-9; and (G) hold an in-state
55 transporter's permit pursuant to section 30-19f or make any such
56 shipment through the use of a person who holds such an in-state
57 transporter's permit.

58 (4) No licensed farm winery may sell any such wine or brandy not
59 manufactured by such winery, except a licensed farm winery may sell
60 from the premises wine manufactured by another farm winery located
61 in this state.

62 (5) The farm winery permittee shall grow on the premises of the
63 farm winery or on property under the same ownership and control of
64 said permittee or leased by the backer of a farm winery permit or by
65 said permittee within the farm winery's principal state an average crop
66 of fruit equal to not less than twenty-five per cent of the fruit used in
67 the manufacture of the farm winery permittee's wine. An average crop
68 shall be defined each year as the average yield of the farm winery
69 permittee's two largest annual crops out of the preceding five years,
70 except that during the first seven years from the date of issuance of a
71 farm winery permit, an average crop shall be defined as three tons of
72 grapes for each acre of vineyard farmed by the farm winery permittee.
73 Such seven-year period shall not begin anew if the property for which
74 the farm winery permit is held is transferred or sold during such
75 seven-year period. In the event the farm winery consists of more than
76 one property, the aggregate acreage of the farm winery shall not be
77 less than five acres.

78 (6) A holder of a manufacturer permit for a farm winery, when
79 advertising or offering wine for direct shipment to a consumer in this
80 state via the Internet or any other on-line computer network, shall
81 clearly and conspicuously state such liquor permit number in its
82 advertising.

83 (7) A holder of a manufacturer permit for a farm winery may sell
84 wine manufactured from such winery at a farmers' market, as defined
85 in section 22-6r, that is operated as a nonprofit enterprise or
86 association, provided such farmers' market invites such holder to sell
87 wine at such farmers' market and such holder has a farmers' market
88 wine sales permit issued by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection
89 in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of section 30-37o.

90 (8) The annual fee for a manufacturer permit for a farm winery shall
91 be three hundred dollars.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	30-16(e)

GL *Joint Favorable*

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 clarifying the average crop definition during the first seven years from the issuance of a farm winery permit as there is no change in any related fees payable to the Department of Consumer Protection.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 881*****AN ACT CONCERNING FARM WINERIES.*****SUMMARY:**

By law, a farm winery permittee must grow, on land he or she controls, an average crop of at least 25% of the fruit used to make the permittee's wine. Generally, an "average crop" is the average yield of the permittee's two largest annual crops for the preceding five years. But, during the first seven years after the farm winery permit is issued, the average crop is calculated as three tons of grapes for each vineyard acre farmed, which can be a lower threshold.

This bill specifies that the seven-year exemption period does not start over if the farm winery property is transferred or sold during the seven-year period.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/12/2013)