



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 6

January Session, 2021

Senate Bill No. 263

Senate, February 25, 2021

The Committee on General Law reported through SEN. MARONEY of the 14th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING CLUB PERMIT AND NONPROFIT CLUB PERMIT FEES.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 30-22a of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (a) A cafe permit shall allow the retail sale of alcoholic liquor to be
5 consumed on the premises of a cafe. The holder of a cafe permit shall
6 keep food available for sale to its customers for consumption on the
7 premises during a majority of the hours such premises are open. The
8 availability of food from outside vendors located on or near the
9 premises shall be deemed compliance with such requirement. The
10 licensed premises shall at all times comply with all the regulations of the
11 local department of health. Nothing herein shall be construed to require
12 that any food be sold or purchased with any alcoholic liquor, nor shall
13 any rule, regulation or standard be promulgated or enforced requiring
14 that the sale of food be substantial or that the receipts of the business

15 other than from the sale of liquor equal any set percentage of total
16 receipts from sales made therein. A cafe permit shall allow, with the
17 prior approval of the Department of Consumer Protection, alcoholic
18 liquor to be served at tables in outside areas that are screened or not
19 screened from public view where permitted by fire, zoning and health
20 regulations. If not required by fire, zoning or health regulations, a fence
21 or wall enclosing such outside areas shall not be required by the
22 Department of Consumer Protection. No fence or wall used to enclose
23 such outside areas shall be less than thirty inches high. Such permit shall
24 also authorize the sale at retail from the premises of sealed containers
25 supplied by the permittee of draught beer for consumption off the
26 premises. Such sales shall be conducted only during the hours a package
27 store is permitted to sell alcoholic liquor under the provisions of
28 subsection (d) of section 30-91. Not more than four liters of such beer
29 shall be sold to any person on any day on which the sale of alcoholic
30 liquor is authorized under the provisions of subsection (d) of section 30-
31 91. The annual fee for a cafe permit shall be two thousand dollars, except
32 the annual fee for a cafe permit for a prior holder of a tavern permit
33 issued pursuant to section 30-26 shall be eight hundred dollars for the
34 first year, twelve hundred dollars for the second year, one thousand six
35 hundred dollars for the third year and two thousand dollars for each
36 year thereafter. The annual fee for a cafe permit for a prior holder of a
37 club permit or a nonprofit club permit issued pursuant to section 30-23
38 shall be eight hundred fifteen dollars.

39 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding subsection (f)
40 of section 21a-4 of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Consumer
41 Protection shall refund to any prior holder of a club permit or a
42 nonprofit club permit issued pursuant to section 30-23 of the general
43 statutes the portion of the annual fee paid by such permittee in excess of
44 eight hundred fifteen dollars, if such excess amount was paid by such
45 permittee on or after July 1, 2020.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	30-22a(a)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section

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:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 21 \$	FY 22 \$	FY 23 \$
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Revenue Loss	400,000	400,000	400,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill reduces the fee for a café permit for previous holders of club and nonprofit club permits from \$2,000 to \$815 resulting in an annual revenue loss of approximately \$400,000 beginning in FY 21¹. In FY 20 there were 338 club and nonprofit club permits.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue subject to the number of club and nonprofit clubs.

¹ The bill requires the Department of Consumer Protection to issue a refund for any club or nonprofit club who paid in excess of \$815 for their FY 21 permit.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 263*****AN ACT CONCERNING CLUB PERMIT AND NONPROFIT CLUB PERMIT FEES.*****SUMMARY**

This bill reduces, from \$2,000 to \$815, the annual fee for a cafe alcohol permit for prior club or nonprofit club permittees. Prior to PA 19-24, which consolidated various permits for on-premises alcohol consumption into the cafe permit, club permit and nonprofit club permit fees were \$300 and \$815, respectively.

Under existing law, permit application fees paid to the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) are generally non-refundable. The bill, however, requires the DCP commissioner to refund any portion of the annual fee a cafe permittee paid in excess of \$815 on or after July 1, 2020.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 19 Nay 0 (02/02/2021)