



**Substitute House Bill No. 6241**

**Public Act No. 23-49**

***AN ACT CONCERNING FARM WINERY PERMITTEES.***

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

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 Subsection (c) of section 30-16 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

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

(2) Such permit shall, at the single principal premises of the farm winery, authorize (A) the sale in bulk by the holder thereof from the premises where the products are manufactured pursuant to such permit; (B) as to a manufacturer who produces one hundred thousand gallons of wine or less per year, the sale and shipment by the holder thereof to a retailer of wine manufactured by the farm winery permittee in the original sealed containers of not more than fifteen gallons per container; (C) the sale and shipment by the holder thereof of wine manufactured by the farm winery permittee to persons outside the state;

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(D) the offering and tasting of free samples of such wine or brandy, dispensed out of bottles or containers having capacities of not more than two gallons per bottle or container, to visitors and prospective retail customers for consumption on the premises of the farm winery permittee; (E) the sale at retail from the premises of sealed bottles or other sealed containers of such wine or brandy for consumption off the premises; (F) the sale at retail from the premises of wine or brandy by the glass and bottle to visitors on the premises of the farm winery permittee for consumption on the premises; and (G) subject to the provisions of subdivision (3) of this subsection, the sale and delivery or shipment of wine manufactured by the permittee directly to a consumer in this state. Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraphs (D), (E) and (F) of this subdivision, a town may, by ordinance or zoning regulation, prohibit any such offering, tasting or selling at retail at premises within such town for which a manufacturer permit for a farm winery has been issued.

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

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

(4) No licensed farm winery may sell any such wine or brandy not manufactured by such winery, except a licensed farm winery may sell from the premises (A) wine manufactured by another farm winery located in this state, and (B) brandy manufactured from fruit harvested in this state and distilled off the premises in this state.

(5) [The] (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, the farm winery permittee shall grow on the premises of the farm winery or on property under the same ownership and control of said permittee or leased by the backer of a farm winery permit or by said permittee within the farm winery's principal state an average crop of fruit equal to not less than twenty-five per cent of the fruit used in the manufacture of the farm winery permittee's wine. An average crop shall be defined each year as the average yield of the farm winery permittee's two largest annual crops out of the preceding five years, except that during the first seven years from the date of issuance of a farm winery permit, an average crop shall be defined as three tons of grapes for each acre of vineyard farmed by the farm winery permittee. Such seven-year period shall not begin anew if the property for which the farm winery permit is held is transferred or sold during such seven-year period. In the event the farm winery consists of more than one property, the aggregate acreage of the farm winery shall not be less than five acres.

(B) If a farm winery permittee sustains a significant loss of the farm winery permittee's crop of fruit, such farm winery permittee shall, not

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later than December thirty-first of the year in which such farm winery permittee sustains such significant loss, certify to the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, that such farm winery permittee has sustained such significant loss. If the commissioner determines, in the commissioner's discretion, that such farm winery permittee sustained such significant loss through no fault of such farm winery permittee, such farm winery permittee's lost crop of fruit shall, for the year in which such farm winery permittee sustained such significant loss, be deemed to satisfy the average crop requirement established in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision. For the purposes of this subparagraph, the commissioner shall, in the commissioner's discretion, determine whether a qualitative or quantitative reduction in crop yield suffered by a farm winery permittee constitutes a significant loss.

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

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

(8) A holder of a manufacturer permit for a farm winery may, with the prior approval of the Department of Consumer Protection, sell wine, brandies, grappa and eau-de-vie manufactured by such farm winery permittee at not more than three retail outlets in addition to such farm

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winery permittee's permit premises, provided (A) each such retail outlet is located on land that is leased or owned by the backer of the farm winery permit and such farm winery permittee utilizes such land to grow fruit and produce alcoholic beverages manufactured exclusively by the farm winery, and (B) no such retail outlet is located within a grocery store, as defined in section 30-20, or any other retail outlet unless otherwise permitted under the general statutes.

[(8)] (9) The annual fee for a manufacturer permit for a farm winery shall be three hundred dollars.