

**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETIETH SESSION**

**S.F. No. 1279**

(SENATE AUTHORS: HOUSLEY)

DATE  
02/22/2017

D-PG

OFFICIAL STATUS  
Introduction and first reading  
Referred to Commerce and Consumer Protection Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to liquor; providing for off-sale for brew pubs and small brewers; amending  
1.3 Minnesota Statutes 2016, sections 340A.24, subdivision 3; 340A.28; 340A.285.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 340A.24, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

1.6 Subd. 3. **Total retail sales.** A brew pub's total retail sales at on- or off-sale under this  
1.7 section may not exceed 3,500 barrels per year; ~~provided that off-sales may not total more~~  
1.8 ~~than 500 barrels.~~

1.9 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 340A.28, is amended to read:

1.10 **340A.28 SMALL BREWER OFF-SALE.**

1.11 Subdivision 1. **License; limitations.** A brewer licensed under section 340A.301,  
1.12 subdivision 6, clause (c), (i), or (j), may be issued a license by a municipality for off-sale  
1.13 of malt liquor at its licensed premises that has been produced and packaged by the brewer.  
1.14 The license must be approved by the commissioner. A brewer may only have one license  
1.15 under this subdivision. ~~The amount of malt liquor sold at off-sale may not exceed 500 barrels~~  
1.16 ~~annually.~~ Off-sale of malt liquor shall be limited to the legal hours for off-sale at exclusive  
1.17 liquor stores in the jurisdiction in which the brewer is located, and the malt liquor sold  
1.18 off-sale must be removed from the premises before the applicable off-sale closing time at  
1.19 exclusive liquor stores, except that malt liquor in growlers only may be sold at off-sale on  
1.20 Sundays. Sunday sales must be approved by the licensing jurisdiction and hours may be  
1.21 established by those jurisdictions. Packaging of malt liquor for off-sale under this subdivision  
1.22 must comply with section 340A.285.

2.1 Subd. 2. **Prohibition.** A municipality may not issue a license under this section to a  
2.2 brewer if the brewer seeking the license, or any person having an economic interest in the  
2.3 brewer seeking the license or exercising control over the brewer seeking the license, is a  
2.4 brewer that brews more than ~~20,000~~ 250,000 barrels of its own brands of malt liquor annually  
2.5 or a winery that produces more than 250,000 gallons of wine annually.

2.6 Subd. 3. **Fee.** The municipality shall impose a licensing fee on a brewer holding a license  
2.7 under this subdivision, subject to limitations applicable to license fees under section  
2.8 340A.408, subdivision 3, paragraph (a).

2.9 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 340A.285, is amended to read:

2.10 **340A.285 GROWLERS.**

2.11 (a) Malt liquor authorized for off-sale pursuant to section 340A.24 or 340A.28 shall be  
2.12 packaged in ~~64-ounce~~ containers commonly known as "growlers" or in ~~750-milliliter bottles.~~  
2.13 ~~The containers or bottles shall bear a twist-type closure, cork, stopper, or plug~~ any vessel  
2.14 containing between 500 milliliters and two liters. At the time of sale, a paper or plastic  
2.15 adhesive band, strip, or sleeve shall be applied to the container or ~~bottle~~ vessel and extended  
2.16 over the top of the twist-type closure, cork, stopper, or plug forming a seal that must be  
2.17 broken upon opening the container or ~~bottle~~ vessel. The adhesive band, strip, or sleeve shall  
2.18 bear the name and address of the brewer. The containers or ~~bottles~~ vessels shall be identified  
2.19 as malt liquor, contain the name of the malt liquor, bear the name and address of the brew  
2.20 pub or brewer selling the malt liquor, and shall be considered intoxicating liquor unless the  
2.21 alcoholic content is labeled as otherwise in accordance with the provisions of Minnesota  
2.22 Rules, part 7515.1100.

2.23 (b) A brew pub or brewer may, but is not required to, refill any container or ~~bottle~~ vessel  
2.24 with malt liquor for off-sale at the request of the customer. A brew pub or brewer refilling  
2.25 a container or ~~bottle~~ vessel must do so at its licensed premises and the container or ~~bottle~~  
2.26 vessel must be filled at the tap at the time of sale. A container or ~~bottle~~ vessel refilled under  
2.27 this paragraph must be sealed and labeled in the manner described in paragraph (a).