



RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSES

SUMMARY OF ASSEMBLY BILL 2452

Introduced by Assemblyman John Burzichelli

- Creates a new “R1” Restricted Restaurant License
 - Permits sale of any alcoholic beverages by the glass or bottle (a similar but more limited beer & wine “R2” license is also created by A2452—see below)
 - Restaurant must measure between 1,500sf and 6,000sf
 - Restaurant must regularly operate a full-service kitchen measuring at least 500sf
 - Bar/bar area is prohibited; however, in addition to table service, drinks can be delivered by wait staff from the permitted “service bar” to patrons waiting to be seated
 - Alcoholic beverages cannot be served before Noon or sooner than one hour before food service begins, whichever occurs later
 - Alcoholic beverages cannot be served after 10pm on Sunday through Thursday or after 11pm on Friday or Saturday
 - “Dry” towns can opt-in or remain “dry”
 - Towns otherwise permitting the sale of alcoholic beverages cannot opt-out of R1 licenses nor can such towns limit the number of R1 licenses in their town



- Initial fee/annual renewal fee for R1 license: \$3,000 for restaurants measuring between 1,500sf and 3,000sf; \$10,000 for restaurants measuring between 3,001sf and 6,000sf
- R1 licenses cannot be sold or transferred
- Creates a new “R2” Restricted Beer & Wine License
 - Same as “R1” license, except:
 - Limited to sale of beer and wine only
 - No service to waiting area; table service only
 - Initial fee/annual renewal fee for R2 license: \$1,500 for restaurants measuring between 1,500sf and 3,000sf; \$5,000 for restaurants measuring between 3,001sf and 6,000sf
- Provides a compensation mechanism for existing Class “C” license holders for any demonstrated loss in value of a license resulting from the creation of the new R1 and R2 licenses
- Amendment to Class “C” License Scheme
 - Current law only permits a new “C” license to be issued each time a town’s population increases by 3,000 residents
 - Legislation would allow a town to issue one new C license based on a *projected* population increase of 3,000 residents, provided that the town has adopted a master plan. Town may issue another C license whenever an additional 3,000 residents are added to town’s population, up to the maximum number of licenses supported by the projected peak population in the master plan.