

HOUSE BILL 480: ABC Permits/Tax Compliance & Reports.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee: House Finance. If favorable, re-refer to Date: April 6, 2017

Alcoholic Beverage Control

Introduced by: Reps. Boles, J. Bell, Willingham Prepared by: Greg Roney

Analysis of: First Edition Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: House Bill 480 would require the ABC Commission to confirm that every brewery permittee and distillery permittee has filed and paid State taxes. House Bill 480 would also require every brewery permittee who holds a malt beverage wholesaler permit to annually report the quantity and dollar amount of malt beverages sold by category.

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 18B-900(a)(8) requires applicants and holders of ABC permits to be current in filing all applicable tax returns to the State and in payment of all taxes, interest, and penalties. To confirm State tax compliance, the ABC Commission is authorized to request the Department of Revenue provide information to the Commission under G.S. 18B-900(f).

G.S. 18B-903(a)(1) gives the following ABC permits an unlimited duration: on-premises and off-premises malt beverage, unfortified wine, and fortified wine permits; culinary permits; and all permits listed in G.S. 18B-1100.

G.S. 18B-1100 lists the following 20 commercial permits: unfortified winery, fortified winery, limited winery, brewery, distillery, fuel alcohol, wine importer, wine wholesaler, malt beverages importer, malt beverages wholesaler, bottler, salesman, vendor representative, nonresident malt beverage vendor, nonresident wine vendor, winery special show, liquor importer/bottler permit, cider and vinegar manufacturer, wine producer permit, and malt beverage special event permit.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 480 would impose annual State tax compliance checks on every brewery permittee and distillery permittee. The State tax compliance checks would be conducted under the procedures used for new applicants and permit holders selected by the ABC Commission. Brewery permit and distillery permits last indefinitely – meaning the existing system for State tax compliance checks would not screen these permit holders unless the ABC Commission selected the permittee for review.

House Bill 480 would also require holders of both a brewery permit and a malt beverage wholesaler permit to annually report the quantity and dollar amount of malt beverages sold by category.

EFFECTIVE DATE: House Bill 480 would be effective when it becomes law, and the ABC Commission must conduct the first State tax compliance checks by October 1, 2017.

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