



2023-2024 General Assembly

SENATE BILL 527: ABC Omnibus 2023-24, Sec. 22: Establish Catawba Indian Nation Tribal Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission

Committee:
Introduced by:
Analysis of: Sec. 22 of S.L. 2024-41

Date: August 26, 2024
Prepared by: Chris Saunders
Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: Section 22 of S.L. 2024-41 authorizes the Catawba Indian Nation to operate a tribal ABC commission and regulate alcoholic beverages on its tribal lands in North Carolina to the same extent as the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians may do on its tribal lands.

This section became effective July 8, 2024.

CURRENT LAW: Alcohol-related activities that occur on tribal lands designated as Indian Country must conform with both a tribal liquor ordinance approved by the federal government and State law.

Under prior existing law, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians tribe is authorized to establish a tribal alcoholic beverage control commission to regulate alcoholic beverages on any land designated as Indian Country, under the jurisdiction of the tribe. The tribe is authorized to hold ABC elections and operate its own ABC stores. The tribe must comply with most provisions of the State's ABC laws.

The Catawba Indian Nation, based in Rock Hill, South Carolina, has approximately 50 acres of land designated as Indian Country under its jurisdiction in North Carolina. On May 1, 2021, the Catawba Indian Nation adopted a Catawba Nation liquor ordinance. The ordinance was published in the Federal Register on November 15, 2021, and became effective December 15, 2021.

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 22 of S.L. 2024-41 authorizes the Catawba Indian Nation to operate a tribal ABC commission and regulate alcoholic beverages on its tribal lands in North Carolina to the same extent as the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians may do on its tribal lands.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section became effective July 8, 2024.

Kara McCraw
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
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