HB 2371

Brief Description: Concerning the sale of beer by grocery store licensees.

Sponsors: Representatives Vick, Kirby, Rodne, Blake and Hurst.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Grocery stores licensed to sell bottled beer may receive an endorsement to sell beer in growlers.

- The Liquor Control Board is granted rulemaking authority with respect to grocery store licensees.

Hearing Date: 1/27/14

Staff: David Rubenstein (786-7153).

Background:

The Liquor Control Board (LCB) issues a variety of liquor licenses, including microbrewery, restaurant, and grocery store licenses. Some licensees are permitted to sell beer in a sanitary container brought to the premises by the purchaser or provided by the licensee and filled at the tap at the time of sale. These are typically called "growlers."

Grocery store licensees permitted to sell bottled beer may also seek and receive an endorsement from the LCB to sell malt liquor in kegs or other containers capable of holding less than 5.5 gallons of liquid.

Licensees permitted to sell beer in growlers include domestic breweries, microbreweries, beer and wine retailers, beer and wine specialty shops, restaurants, and hotels.

Summary of Bill:

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

If approved by the LCB, a grocery store licensee may receive an endorsement to allow the sale of beer in a growler. The container must be filled at the tap at the time of sale.

The LCB is authorized to adopt rules to implement the grocery store license.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.