

# House Research Act Summary

**CHAPTER:** 240 (S.F. 2336)

**SESSION:** 2014 Regular Session

**TOPIC:** Omnibus Liquor Bill

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## Overview

This is the annual omnibus liquor bill.

### Section

- 1 **Farm winery.** Treats farm wineries as wholesalers for certain excise taxes.
- 2 **Exemptions.** Exempts home use, and bulk distilled spirits, from excise taxes.
- 3 **Bulk distilled spirits.** This provision adds a definition of bulk distilled spirits.
- 4 **Bulk wine.** This provision adds a definition of bulk wine.
- 5 **Microdistilleries.** Allows operation of a “cocktail” room. Places conditions on operation of a cocktail room, including local licensure. Requires these rooms to be a distinct license. Prohibits possession of both a taproom and a cocktail room by one entity.
- 6 **Brewer taproom license.** Allows taprooms to be open Sundays, with local permission.
- 7 **Microdistilleries.** Technical to conform with section 5.
- 8 **Small brewer license.** Allows brewers to refill any growler, from any brewer, if they wish.
- 9 **Interest in other business.** Allows brewpubs to refill growlers from other brewers.
- 10 **Unlicensed manufacture.** Allows home brewers to show at exhibitions, and to conduct tastings.
- 11 **Sales.** Increases production limits for farm wineries from 50,000 gallons per year to 75,000 gallons.

**Section**

- 12 Storage.** Allows storage of farm winery products in a noncontiguous warehouse. Conforms this provision with existing rules already adopted by the Department of Public Safety. Requires notice of location to DPS.
- 13 Bulk wine or distilled spirits.** Provides that if no wholesaler is able to provide these spirits in bulk form, a farm winery may purchase them on the open market.
- 14 Sacramental wine.** This provision restores the sacramental wine sales allowed prior to 1995, via religious book or supply stores.
- 15 Special provision; city of Minneapolis.** Allows on-sale licenses for the Swedish American Institute and the Minneapolis Institute of Arts.
- 16 Wine licenses.** Removes a food service requirement for service of wine and beer. Increases the allowed percentage of alcohol in wine to 24 percent.
- 17 License revocation or suspension; civil penalty.** Adds failure to comply with establishment operation requirements as an enforceable aspect of license revocation.
- 18 Mixed drinks or cocktails.** Allows storage of cocktails that are mixed, or infused liquors. Specifies limits on amount and duration of storage.
- 19 Malt liquor samples authorized.** Allows up to 12 sampling events per year, for brewers, up from current level of five.
- 20 Lawful gambling fraud.** Establishes a fraud standard for electronic lawful gambling.
- 21 Brooklyn Park.** Allows an on-sale license to a wedding event center in Brooklyn Park.
- 22 City of Richfield; on-sale license.** Allows an on-sale license for professional hockey events at the Richfield Ice Arena.
- 23 Special closing times; 2014 All-Star Game.** Allows special closing times for two days connected to the 2014 all-star game, with local approval and issuance of license.
- 24 Special license; Golden Valley.** Allows Golden Valley to issue an on-sale license to a city-owned golf course and community center.
- 25 Revisor's instructions.** Requires the revisor to re-codify brewer and brewpub statutes for clarity purposes.
- 26 Repealer.** Extends University of Minnesota liquor sales, removing a current sunset.