

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Registration of Beer Kegs

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Overview

This bill requires all beer kegs sold by off-sale retailers to have an identification number that is recorded by the retailer, along with the buyer's identification, at the time of sale. It prohibits anyone other than a wholesaler or retailer from possessing a beer keg without the required identification.

Section

1 **Sale of beer kegs.** Requires beer kegs to be identified and recorded before being sold by off-sale retailers.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Defines "beer keg" as a brewery-sealed container holding at least four gallons of beer. Defines "off-sale retailer" to include licensees and municipal liquor stores.

Subd. 2. Standards. Requires the commissioner of public safety to prescribe standards for engraving, or attachment and removal, of identification for beer kegs, including standards for assigning or approving identification numbers. Exempts the standards from rulemaking.

Subd. 3. Identification required. Prohibits an off-sale retailer from selling a beer keg unless it has identification attached to it or engraved on it. Requires the identification to include a keg identification number and the retailer's name and address or state-assigned retailer identification number.

Subd. 4. Records. Requires an off-sale retailer who sells a beer keg to record:

- (1) the buyer's name, address, and driver's license or social security number;
- (2) the date and time of the purchase; and
- (3) the keg identification number.

Requires the record to be entered into a book or register. Requires the book or register to be kept by the retailer for at least 90 days after the date of the last sale recorded in it.

Requires a retailer who sells a beer keg on condition that it be returned to require a deposit of at least \$50, refundable on return of the keg with the identification intact.

Subd. 5. Access to records. Requires off-sale retailers to make their keg sale registers available for inspection by a peace officer or a department of public safety agent.

Subd. 6. Violations. Prohibits a person required to record keg sales in a book or register from knowingly making a materially false entry. Allows a defense of reasonable reliance on proof of age.

Prohibits a person required to record keg sales in a book or register from making a materially false statement to a peace officer or a department agent concerning information required to be recorded.

Prohibits anyone other than a wholesaler or retailer from possessing a beer keg that does not have the required identification.