

**Subject** Liquor regulation advisory council established

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## Overview

H.F. 3722 would establish a liquor regulation advisory council that would make recommendations on all proposals coming before the state legislature that propose to modify the state's liquor laws. The governor would appoint all nine members to the council, each representing the interests of various liquor retailers, wholesalers, and producers.

The bill would also allow municipalities to issue on-sale wine and beer licenses for town ball games and would appropriate \$250,000 to the alcohol and gambling enforcement division to hire two additional full-time employees.

## Summary

Section	Description
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1	<b>Cities.</b>
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Authorizes a municipality to issue on-sale wine and beer licenses to the owner of a town ball team, for alcohol service at town ball games.

Effective date: day following final enactment.

2	<b>Liquor regulation advisory council.</b>
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**Subd. 1. Creation; composition.** Establishes a Liquor Regulation Advisory Council consisting of nine members appointed by the governor and provides for expiration of the council.

Three members must represent one of each of the following retailer groups: municipal liquor stores, exclusive liquor stores, and restaurants.

Three members must represent one of each of the following wholesaler groups: wholesaler labor unions, distilled spirits wholesalers, and beer wholesalers (excluding a small brewer that self-distributes).

**Section Description**

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Three members must represent one of each of the following manufacturer groups: small brewers, microdistilleries, and manufacturers other than a small brewer or microdistillery.

The governor would appoint the chair of the council and members would serve terms of five years.

The speaker of the house, house minority leader, and the senate majority and minority leaders would each appoint a caucus member as liaison to the council.

**Subd. 2. Duties; recommendations.** The council would be required to make recommendations regarding proposed changes to state liquor law that have a statewide impact. Recommendations on pending bills would be due by February 1 to the legislative committees having jurisdiction over liquor regulation. Recommendations must be supported by a majority of the council and by member from each group of members established in section 1. A house or senate chair of a committee having jurisdiction over liquor may request a meeting with the council to discuss matters of legislative concern arising under the state's liquor laws.

**Subd. 3. Meetings; voting.** Allows the council to meet as frequently as necessary and to conduct public hearings throughout the state. Imposes the open meeting law on the council but allows members from the different groups established in section 1 to deliberate privately.

**Subd. 4. Executive director.** Requires the commissioner of public safety or their designee to appoint an executive director to the council. The director would be required to provide administrative support to the council to allow it to monitor the state's liquor regulatory system.

**Subd. 5. Administrative support.** Requires the commissioner of public safety to supply all necessary administrative and clerical support to the council.

Effective date: July 1, 2022.

**3 Appropriation.**

Appropriates \$250,000 in fiscal year 2023 from the general fund to the commissioner of public safety to hire two additional full-time employees for the alcohol and gambling enforcement division.



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