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SENATE BILL NO. 1110

Offered January 9, 2019

Prefiled December 21, 2018

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 4.1-100, 4.1-119, 4.1-121, 4.1-122, 4.1-124, and 4.1-221.1 of the Code of Virginia and to repeal § 4.1-126 of the Code of Virginia, relating to alcoholic beverage control; local referendums.

Patrons—Reeves, DeSteph, Mason, McPike and Spruill

Referred to Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 4.1-100, 4.1-119, 4.1-121, 4.1-122, 4.1-124, and 4.1-221.1 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 4.1-100. Definitions.

As used in this title unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Alcohol" means the product known as ethyl or grain alcohol obtained by distillation of any fermented liquor, rectified either once or more often, whatever the origin, and shall include synthetic ethyl alcohol, but shall not include methyl alcohol and alcohol completely denatured in accordance with formulas approved by the government of the United States.

"Alcohol vaporizing device" means any device, machine, or process that mixes any alcoholic beverages with pure oxygen or other gas to produce a vaporized product for the purpose of consumption by inhalation.

"Alcoholic beverages" includes alcohol, spirits, wine, and beer, and any one or more of such varieties containing one-half of one percent or more of alcohol by volume, including mixed alcoholic beverages, and every liquid or solid, powder or crystal, patented or not, containing alcohol, spirits, wine, or beer and capable of being consumed by a human being. Any liquid or solid containing more than one of the four varieties shall be considered as belonging to that variety which has the higher percentage of alcohol, however obtained, according to the order in which they are set forth in this definition; except that beer may be manufactured to include flavoring materials and other nonbeverage ingredients containing alcohol, as long as no more than 49 percent of the overall alcohol content of the finished product is derived from the addition of flavors and other nonbeverage ingredients containing alcohol for products with an alcohol content of no more than six percent by volume; or, in the case of products with an alcohol content of more than six percent by volume, as long as no more than one and one-half percent of the volume of the finished product consists of alcohol derived from added flavors and other nonbeverage ingredients containing alcohol.

"Art instruction studio" means any commercial establishment that provides to its customers all required supplies and step-by-step instruction in creating a painting or other work of art during a studio instructional session.

"Arts venue" means a commercial or nonprofit establishment that is open to the public and in which works of art are sold or displayed.

"Authority" means the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority created pursuant to this title.

"Barrel" means any container or vessel having a capacity of more than 43 ounces.

"Bed and breakfast establishment" means any establishment (i) having no more than 15 bedrooms; (ii) offering to the public, for compensation, transitory lodging or sleeping accommodations; and (iii) offering at least one meal per day, which may but need not be breakfast, to each person to whom overnight lodging is provided. For purposes of the licensing requirements of this title, "bed and breakfast establishment" includes any property offered to the public for short-term rental, as that term is defined in § 15.2-983, other than a hotel as defined in this section, regardless of whether a meal is offered to each person to whom overnight lodging is provided.

"Beer" means any alcoholic beverage obtained by the fermentation of an infusion or decoction of barley, malt, and hops or of any similar products in drinkable water and containing one-half of one percent or more of alcohol by volume.

"Board" means the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority.

"Bottle" means any vessel intended to contain liquids and having a capacity of not more than 43 ounces.

"Canal boat operator" means any nonprofit organization that operates tourism-oriented canal boats for recreational purposes on waterways declared nonnavigable by the United States Congress pursuant to 33 U.S.C. § 59ii.

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59 "Club" means any private nonprofit corporation or association which is the owner, lessee, or
60 occupant of an establishment operated solely for a national, social, patriotic, political, athletic, or other
61 like purpose, but not for pecuniary gain, the advantages of which belong to all of the members. It also
62 means the establishment so operated. A corporation or association shall not lose its status as a club
63 because of the conduct of charitable gaming conducted pursuant to Article 1.1:1 (§ 18.2-340.15 et seq.)
64 of Chapter 8 of Title 18.2 in which nonmembers participate frequently or in large numbers, provided
65 that no alcoholic beverages are served or consumed in the room where such charitable gaming is being
66 conducted while such gaming is being conducted and that no alcoholic beverages are made available
67 upon the premises to any person who is neither a member nor a bona fide guest of a member.

68 Any such corporation or association which has been declared exempt from federal and state income
69 taxes as one which is not organized and operated for pecuniary gain or profit shall be deemed a
70 nonprofit corporation or association.

71 "Commercial lifestyle center" means a mixed-use commercial development covering a minimum of
72 25 acres of land and having at least 100,000 square feet of retail space featuring national specialty chain
73 stores and a combination of dining, entertainment, office, residential, or hotel establishments located in a
74 physically integrated outdoor setting that is pedestrian friendly and that is governed by a commercial
75 owners' association that is responsible for the management, maintenance, and operation of the common
76 areas thereof.

77 "Container" means any barrel, bottle, carton, keg, vessel or other receptacle used for holding
78 alcoholic beverages.

79 "Contract winemaking facility" means the premises of a licensed winery or farm winery that obtains
80 grapes, fruits, and other agricultural products from a person holding a farm winery license and crushes,
81 processes, ferments, bottles, or provides any combination of such services pursuant to an agreement with
82 the farm winery licensee. For all purposes of this title, wine produced by a contract winemaking facility
83 for a farm winery shall be considered to be wine owned and produced by the farm winery that supplied
84 the grapes, fruits, or other agricultural products used in the production of the wine. The contract
85 winemaking facility shall have no right to sell the wine so produced, unless the terms of payment have
86 not been fulfilled in accordance with the contract. The contract winemaking facility may charge the farm
87 winery for its services.

88 "Convenience grocery store" means an establishment which (i) has an enclosed room in a permanent
89 structure where stock is displayed and offered for sale and (ii) maintains an inventory of edible items
90 intended for human consumption consisting of a variety of such items of the types normally sold in
91 grocery stores.

92 "Day spa" means any commercial establishment that offers to the public both massage therapy,
93 performed by persons licensed in accordance with § 54.1-3029, and barbering or cosmetology services
94 performed by persons licensed in accordance with Chapter 7 (§ 54.1-700 et seq.) of Title 54.1.

95 "Designated area" means a room or area approved by the Board for on-premises licensees.

96 "Dining area" means a public room or area in which meals are regularly served.

97 "Establishment" means any place where alcoholic beverages of one or more varieties are lawfully
98 manufactured, sold, or used.

99 "Farm winery" means (i) an establishment (a) located on a farm in the Commonwealth on land zoned
100 agricultural with a producing vineyard, orchard, or similar growing area and with facilities for
101 fermenting and bottling wine on the premises where the owner or lessee manufactures wine that contains
102 not more than 21 percent alcohol by volume or (b) located in the Commonwealth on land zoned
103 agricultural with a producing vineyard, orchard, or similar growing area or agreements for purchasing
104 grapes or other fruits from agricultural growers within the Commonwealth, and with facilities for
105 fermenting and bottling wine on the premises where the owner or lessee manufactures wine that contains
106 not more than 21 percent alcohol by volume or (ii) an accredited public or private institution of higher
107 education, provided that (a) no wine manufactured by the institution shall be sold, (b) the wine
108 manufactured by the institution shall be used solely for research and educational purposes, (c) the wine
109 manufactured by the institution shall be stored on the premises of such farm winery that shall be
110 separate and apart from all other facilities of the institution, and (d) such farm winery is operated in
111 strict conformance with the requirements of this clause (ii) and Board regulations. As used in this
112 definition, the terms "owner" and "lessee" shall include a cooperative formed by an association of
113 individuals for the purpose of manufacturing wine. In the event that such cooperative is licensed as a
114 farm winery, the term "farm" as used in this definition includes all of the land owned or leased by the
115 individual members of the cooperative as long as such land is located in the Commonwealth. For
116 purposes of this definition, "land zoned agricultural" means (1) land zoned as an agricultural district or
117 classification or (2) land otherwise permitted by a locality for farm winery use. For purposes of this
118 definition, "land zoned agricultural" does not include land zoned "residential conservation." Except for
119 the limitation on land zoned "residential conservation," nothing in the definition of "land zoned
120 agricultural" shall otherwise limit or affect local zoning authority.

121 "Gift shop" means any bona fide retail store selling, predominantly, gifts, books, souvenirs, specialty
 122 items relating to history, original and handmade arts and products, collectibles, crafts, and floral
 123 arrangements, which is open to the public on a regular basis. Such shop shall be a permanent structure
 124 where stock is displayed and offered for sale and which has facilities to properly secure any stock of
 125 wine or beer. Such shop may be located (i) on the premises or grounds of a government registered
 126 national, state or local historic building or site or (ii) within the premises of a museum. The Board shall
 127 consider the purpose, characteristics, nature, and operation of the shop in determining whether it shall be
 128 considered a gift shop.

129 "Gourmet brewing shop" means an establishment which sells to persons to whom wine or beer may
 130 lawfully be sold, ingredients for making wine or brewing beer, including packaging, and rents to such
 131 persons facilities for manufacturing, fermenting and bottling such wine or beer.

132 "Gourmet shop" means an establishment provided with adequate inventory, shelving, and storage
 133 facilities, where, in consideration of payment, substantial amounts of domestic and imported wines and
 134 beers of various types and sizes and related products such as cheeses and gourmet foods are habitually
 135 furnished to persons.

136 "Government store" means a store established by the Authority for the sale of alcoholic beverages.

137 "Historic cinema house" means a nonprofit establishment exempt from taxation under § 501(c)(3) of
 138 the Internal Revenue Code that was built prior to 1970 and that exists for the primary purpose of
 139 showing motion pictures to the public.

140 "Hotel" means any duly licensed establishment, provided with special space and accommodation,
 141 where, in consideration of payment, food and lodging are habitually furnished to persons, and which has
 142 four or more bedrooms. It shall also mean the person who operates such hotel.

143 "Interdicted person" means a person to whom the sale of alcoholic beverages is prohibited by order
 144 pursuant to this title.

145 "Internet beer retailer" means a person who owns or operates an establishment with adequate
 146 inventory, shelving, and storage facilities, where, in consideration of payment, Internet or telephone
 147 orders are taken and shipped directly to consumers and which establishment is not a retail store open to
 148 the public.

149 "Internet wine retailer" means a person who owns or operates an establishment with adequate
 150 inventory, shelving, and storage facilities, where, in consideration of payment, internet or telephone
 151 orders are taken and shipped directly to consumers and which establishment is not a retail store open to
 152 the public.

153 "Intoxicated" means a condition in which a person has drunk enough alcoholic beverages to
 154 observably affect his manner, disposition, speech, muscular movement, general appearance or behavior.

155 "Licensed" means the holding of a valid license granted by the Authority.

156 "Licensee" means any person to whom a license has been granted by the Authority.

157 "Liqueur" means any of a class of highly flavored alcoholic beverages that do not exceed an alcohol
 158 content of 25 percent by volume.

159 "Low alcohol beverage cooler" means a drink containing one-half of one percent or more of alcohol
 160 by volume, but not more than seven and one-half percent alcohol by volume, and consisting of spirits
 161 mixed with nonalcoholic beverages or flavoring or coloring materials; it may also contain water, fruit
 162 juices, fruit adjuncts, sugar, carbon dioxide, preservatives or other similar products manufactured by
 163 fermenting fruit or fruit juices. Low alcohol beverage coolers shall be treated as wine for all purposes of
 164 this title; except that low alcohol beverage coolers shall not be sold in localities that ~~have not approved~~
 165 *prohibit* the sale of mixed beverages pursuant to § 4.1-124. In addition, low alcohol beverage coolers
 166 shall not be sold for on-premises consumption other than by mixed beverage licensees.

167 "Meal-assembly kitchen" means any commercial establishment that offers its customers, for
 168 off-premises consumption, ingredients for the preparation of meals and entrees in professional kitchen
 169 facilities located at the establishment.

170 "Meals" means, for a mixed beverage license, an assortment of foods commonly ordered in bona
 171 fide, full-service restaurants as principal meals of the day. Such restaurants shall include establishments
 172 specializing in full course meals with a single substantial entree.

173 "Member of a club" means (i) a person who maintains his membership in the club by the payment of
 174 monthly, quarterly, or annual dues in the manner established by the rules and regulations thereof or (ii)
 175 a person who is a member of a bona fide auxiliary, local chapter, or squadron composed of direct lineal
 176 descendants of a bona fide member, whether alive or deceased, of a national or international
 177 organization to which an individual lodge holding a club license is an authorized member in the same
 178 locality. It shall also mean a lifetime member whose financial contribution is not less than 10 times the
 179 annual dues of resident members of the club, the full amount of such contribution being paid in advance
 180 in a lump sum.

181 "Mixed beverage" or "mixed alcoholic beverage" means a drink composed in whole or in part of

182 spirits.

183 "Mixer" means any prepackaged ingredients containing beverages or flavoring or coloring materials,
184 and which may also contain water, fruit juices, fruit adjuncts, sugar, carbon dioxide, or preservatives
185 which are not commonly consumed unless combined with alcoholic beverages, whether or not such
186 ingredients contain alcohol. Such specialty beverage product shall be manufactured or distributed by a
187 Virginia corporation.

188 "Municipal golf course" means any golf course that is owned by any town incorporated in 1849 and
189 which is the county seat of Smyth County.

190 "Place or premises" means the real estate, together with any buildings or other improvements thereon,
191 designated in the application for a license as the place at which the manufacture, bottling, distribution,
192 use or sale of alcoholic beverages shall be performed, except that portion of any such building or other
193 improvement actually and exclusively used as a private residence.

194 "Principal stockholder" means any person who individually or in concert with his spouse and
195 immediate family members beneficially owns or controls, directly or indirectly, five percent or more of
196 the equity ownership of any person that is a licensee of the Authority, or who in concert with his spouse
197 and immediate family members has the power to vote or cause the vote of five percent or more of any
198 such equity ownership. "Principal stockholder" does not include a broker-dealer registered under the
199 Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, that holds in inventory shares for sale on the financial
200 markets for a publicly traded corporation holding, directly or indirectly, a license from the Authority.

201 "Public place" means any place, building, or conveyance to which the public has, or is permitted to
202 have, access, including restaurants, soda fountains, hotel dining areas, lobbies and corridors of hotels,
203 and any park, place of public resort or amusement, highway, street, lane, or sidewalk adjoining any
204 highway, street, or lane.

205 The term shall not include (i) hotel or restaurant dining areas or ballrooms while in use for private
206 meetings or private parties limited in attendance to members and guests of a particular group,
207 association or organization; (ii) restaurants licensed by the Authority in office buildings or industrial or
208 similar facilities while such restaurant is closed to the public and in use for private meetings or parties
209 limited in attendance to employees and nonpaying guests of the owner or a lessee of all or part of such
210 building or facility; (iii) offices, office buildings or industrial facilities while closed to the public and in
211 use for private meetings or parties limited in attendance to employees and nonpaying guests of the
212 owner or a lessee of all or part of such building or facility; or (iv) private recreational or chartered boats
213 which are not licensed by the Board and on which alcoholic beverages are not sold.

214 "Residence" means any building or part of a building or structure where a person resides, but does
215 not include any part of a building which is not actually and exclusively used as a private residence, nor
216 any part of a hotel or club other than a private guest room thereof.

217 "Resort complex" means a facility (i) with a hotel owning year-round sports and recreational facilities
218 located contiguously on the same property or (ii) owned by a nonstock, nonprofit, taxable corporation
219 with voluntary membership which, as its primary function, makes available golf, ski and other
220 recreational facilities both to its members and the general public. The hotel or corporation shall have a
221 minimum of 140 private guest rooms or dwelling units contained on not less than 50 acres. The
222 Authority may consider the purpose, characteristics, and operation of the applicant establishment in
223 determining whether it shall be considered as a resort complex. All other pertinent qualifications
224 established by the Board for a hotel operation shall be observed by such licensee.

225 "Restaurant" means, for a beer, or wine and beer license or a limited mixed beverage restaurant
226 license, any establishment provided with special space and accommodation, where, in consideration of
227 payment, meals or other foods prepared on the premises are regularly sold.

228 "Restaurant" means, for a mixed beverage license other than a limited mixed beverage restaurant
229 license, an established place of business (i) where meals with substantial entrees are regularly sold and
230 (ii) which has adequate facilities and sufficient employees for cooking, preparing, and serving such
231 meals for consumption at tables in dining areas on the premises, and includes establishments specializing
232 in full course meals with a single substantial entree.

233 "Sale" and "sell" includes soliciting or receiving an order for; keeping, offering or exposing for sale;
234 peddling, exchanging or bartering; or delivering otherwise than gratuitously, by any means, alcoholic
235 beverages.

236 "Sangria" means a drink consisting of red or white wine mixed with some combination of
237 sweeteners, fruit, fruit juice, soda, or soda water that may also be mixed with brandy, triple sec, or other
238 similar spirits.

239 "Special agent" means an employee of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority whom the
240 Board has designated as a law-enforcement officer pursuant to § 4.1-105.

241 "Special event" means an event sponsored by a duly organized nonprofit corporation or association
242 and conducted for an athletic, charitable, civic, educational, political, or religious purpose.

243 "Spirits" means any beverage which contains alcohol obtained by distillation mixed with drinkable

244 water and other substances, in solution, and includes, among other things, brandy, rum, whiskey, and
245 gin, or any one or more of the last four named ingredients; but shall not include any such liquors
246 completely denatured in accordance with formulas approved by the United States government.

247 "Wine" means any alcoholic beverage, including cider, obtained by the fermentation of the natural
248 sugar content of fruits or other agricultural products containing (i) sugar, including honey and milk,
249 either with or without additional sugar; (ii) one-half of one percent or more of alcohol by volume; and
250 (iii) no product of distillation. The term includes any wine to which wine spirits have been added, as
251 provided in the Internal Revenue Code, to make products commonly known as "fortified wine" which do
252 not exceed an alcohol content of 21 percent by volume.

253 "Wine cooler" means a drink containing one-half of one percent or more of alcohol by volume, and
254 not more than three and two-tenths percent of alcohol by weight or four percent by volume consisting of
255 wine mixed with nonalcoholic beverages or flavoring or coloring materials, and which may also contain
256 water, fruit juices, fruit adjuncts, sugar, carbon dioxide, or preservatives and shall include other similar
257 products manufactured by fermenting fruit or fruit juices. Wine coolers and similar fermented fruit juice
258 beverages shall be treated as wine for all purposes except for taxation under § 4.1-236.

259 "With or without meals" means the selling and serving of alcoholic beverages by retail licensees for
260 on-premises consumption whether or not accompanied by food so long as the total food-beverage ratio
261 required by § 4.1-210, or the monthly food sale requirement established by Board regulation, is met by
262 such retail licensee.

263 **§ 4.1-119. Operation of government stores.**

264 A. Subject to the ~~requirements~~ *provisions* of §§ 4.1-121 and 4.1-122, the Board may establish,
265 maintain, and operate government stores for the sale of alcoholic beverages, other than beer and wine
266 not produced by farm wineries, vermouth, mixers, products used in connection with distilled spirits,
267 including any garnish or garnishment applied to the rim of a glass of distilled spirits, as may be
268 approved by the Board from time to time, and products licensed by the Virginia Tourism Corporation as
269 specified in § 4.1-103 in such counties, cities, and towns considered advisable by the Board. The Board
270 may discontinue any such store.

271 B. With respect to the sale of wine or cider produced by farm wineries, the Board may give
272 preference to farm wineries that produce 2,500 cases or less of wine or cider per year.

273 C. The Board shall fix the wholesale and retail prices at which the various classes, varieties and
274 brands of alcoholic beverages and other Board-approved products that are sold in government stores.
275 Differences in the cost of operating stores, and market competition and conditions may be reflected in
276 the sale price of alcoholic beverages sold at government stores. The Board may sell alcoholic beverages
277 to federal instrumentalities (i) authorized and operating under the laws of the United States and
278 regulations of the United States Department of Defense and (ii) located within the boundaries of federal
279 enclaves or reservations over which the United States has acquired jurisdiction, at prices which may be
280 greater or less than the wholesale price charged other authorized purchasers. Nothing in this subsection
281 shall be construed to limit the authority of the Board to fix the retail price of alcoholic beverages sold at
282 government stores, which retail price may include promotional, volume, or other discounts deemed
283 appropriate by the Board.

284 D. Alcoholic beverages at government stores shall be sold by employees of the Authority who shall
285 carry out the provisions of this title and Board regulations governing the operation of government stores
286 and the sale of alcoholic beverages, except that the Board may appoint the holder of a distiller's license
287 or its officers and employees as agents of the Board for the sale of spirits, manufactured by or for, or
288 blended by such licensee on the licensed premises, at government stores established by the Board (i) on
289 the distiller's licensed premises or (ii) at the site of an event licensed by the Board and conducted for
290 the purpose of featuring and educating the consuming public about spirits products.

291 Such agents shall sell the spirits in accordance with the provisions of this title, Board regulations,
292 and the terms of the agency agreement between the Authority and the licensed distiller.

293 For the purposes of this subsection, "blended" means the receipt by a licensed distiller of deliveries
294 and shipments of alcoholic beverages, other than wine and beer, in accordance with subdivision 6 of §
295 4.1-201 to be (i) additionally aged by the receiving distillery in order to increase the quality and flavor
296 of such alcoholic beverages and (ii) bottled by the receiving distillery.

297 E. (Effective until July 1, 2022)No Class 1 neutral grain spirit or alcohol, as defined by federal
298 regulations, that is without distinctive character, aroma, taste or color shall be sold in government stores
299 at a proof greater than 151 except upon permits issued by the Board for industrial, commercial, culinary,
300 or medical use.

301 E. (Effective July 1, 2022)No Class 1 neutral grain spirit or alcohol, as defined by federal
302 regulations, that is without distinctive character, aroma, taste or color shall be sold in government stores
303 at a proof greater than 101 except upon permits issued by the Board for industrial, commercial, culinary,
304 or medical use.

305 F. All alcoholic beverages sold in government stores, except for tasting samples pursuant to
 306 subsection G sold in government stores established by the Board on a distiller's licensed premises, shall
 307 be in closed containers, sealed and affixed with labels prescribed by the Board.

308 G. No alcoholic beverages shall be consumed in a government store by any person unless it is part
 309 of an organized tasting event conducted by (i) an employee of a manufacturer of distilled spirits or farm
 310 winery or (ii) an authorized representative of a manufacturer of distilled spirits or farm winery with a
 311 permit issued by the Board pursuant to subdivision A 15 of § 4.1-212, at which the samples of
 312 alcoholic beverages provided to any consumer do not exceed the limits for spirits or wine set forth in
 313 subdivision A 5 of § 4.1-201.1. No sample may be consumed by any individual to whom alcoholic
 314 beverages may not lawfully be sold pursuant to § 4.1-304.

315 Notwithstanding the provision of this subsection to the contrary, an agent of the Board appointed
 316 pursuant to subsection D may give samples of spirits, beer, wine, or cider to persons to whom alcoholic
 317 beverages may be lawfully sold for on-premises consumption, provided that (i) the spirits, beer, wine, or
 318 cider samples are manufactured within the same licensed premises or on contiguous premises of such
 319 agent licensed as a distillery, brewery, or winery; (ii) no single sample shall exceed four ounces of beer,
 320 two ounces of wine or cider, or one-half ounce of spirits, unless served as a mixed beverage, in which
 321 case a single sample of spirits may contain up to one and one-half ounces of spirits; (iii) no more than
 322 four total samples of alcoholic beverage products or, in the case of spirits samples, no more than three
 323 ounces of spirits shall be given or sold to any person per day; and (iv) in the case of spirits samples, a
 324 method is used to track the consumption of each consumer. Nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit such
 325 agent from serving samples of spirits as part of a mixed beverage. Such mixed beverage samples may
 326 contain spirits or vermouth not manufactured on the licensed premises or on contiguous premises of the
 327 licensed distillery, provided that at least 75 percent of the alcohol used in such samples is manufactured
 328 on the licensed premises or on contiguous premises of the licensed distillery. An agent of the Board
 329 appointed pursuant to subsection D may keep on the licensed premises no more than 10 varieties of
 330 spirits or vermouth not manufactured on the licensed premises or on contiguous premises of the licensed
 331 distillery. Any spirits or vermouth used in such samples that are not manufactured on the licensed
 332 premises or on contiguous premises of the licensed distillery shall be purchased from the Board.

333 The Board shall establish guidelines governing tasting events conducted pursuant to this subsection.

334 H. With respect to purchases by licensees at government stores, the Authority shall (i) accept in
 335 payment for any purchase or series of purchases cash, electronic fund transfer, credit or debit card, or
 336 check payable to the Authority, in the exact amount of any such purchase or series of purchases and (ii)
 337 provide notice to licensees on Board policies relating to the assignment of government stores from
 338 which licensees may purchase products and any procedure for the licensee to elect to make purchases
 339 from an alternative government store.

340 I. With respect to purchases by consumers at government stores, the Authority shall accept cash in
 341 payment for any purchase or series of purchases. The Board may adopt regulations which provide for
 342 accepting a credit card or debit card as payment. Such regulations may provide for the collection, where
 343 appropriate, of related fees, penalties and service charges for the use of a credit card or debit card by
 344 any consumer.

345 J. Before the Authority implements any increase in the markup on distilled spirits or any change to
 346 the markup formula for distilled spirits pursuant to § 4.1-235 that would result in an increase in the
 347 retail price of distilled spirits sold to the public, the Authority shall (i) provide at least 45 days' public
 348 notice before such a price increase takes effect; (ii) provide the opportunity for submission of written
 349 comments regarding the proposed price increase; (iii) conduct a public meeting for the purpose of
 350 receiving verbal comment regarding the proposed price increase; and (iv) consider any written or verbal
 351 comments before implementing such a price increase.

352 **§ 4.1-121. Referendum on establishment of government stores.**

353 A. The qualified voters of any county, city, or town having a population of 1,000 or more may file a
 354 petition with the circuit court of the county or city, or of the county wherein the town or the greater
 355 part thereof is situated, asking that a referendum be held on the question of whether the sale by the
 356 Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority of *alcoholic beverages*, other than beer and wine not
 357 produced by farm wineries, should be ~~permitted~~ *prohibited* within that jurisdiction. The petition shall be
 358 signed by qualified voters equal in number to at least 10 percent of the number registered in the
 359 jurisdiction on January 1 preceding its filing or by at least 100 qualified voters, whichever is greater.
 360 Upon the filing of a petition, the court shall order the election officials of the county, city, or town, on
 361 the date fixed in the order, to conduct a referendum on the question. The clerk of the circuit court shall
 362 publish notice of the referendum in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, city, or town once
 363 a week for three consecutive weeks prior to the referendum.

364 The question on the ballot shall be:

365 "Shall the sale by the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority of alcoholic beverages, other
 366 than beer and wine not produced by farm wineries, be ~~permitted~~ *prohibited* in (name of

367 county, city, or town)?"

368 The referendum shall be ordered and held and the results certified as provided in § 24.2-684.
369 Thereupon the court shall enter of record an order certified by the clerk of the court to be transmitted to
370 the Board and to the governing body of the county, city, or town.

371 B. Once a referendum has been held, no other referendum on the same question shall be held in the
372 county, city, or town within four years of the date of the prior referendum. However, a town shall not
373 be prescribed from holding a referendum within such period although an election has been held in the
374 county in which the town or a part thereof is located less than four years prior thereto.

375 **§ 4.1-122. Effect of local option referenda.**

376 A. If in any referendum held under the provisions of § 4.1-121 in any county, city, or town a
377 majority of the qualified voters vote "~~No~~" "*Yes*" on the question, then on and after ~~sixty~~ 60 days from
378 the date on which the order of the court, setting forth the results of such referendum was entered of
379 record, none of the alcoholic beverages voted against shall be sold in such county, city, or town except
380 for delivery or shipment to persons outside of such county, city, or town authorized under this title to
381 acquire the alcoholic beverages for resale. This subsection shall not apply to common carriers of
382 passengers by train, boat or airplane selling wine and beer to bona fide passengers.

383 B. If in any such referendum held in any county, city, or town in which a majority of the qualified
384 voters have previously voted ~~against permitting to prohibit~~ the sale of alcoholic beverages by the Board
385 and in a subsequent election a majority of the voters of the county, city, or town vote "~~Yes~~" "*No*" on
386 the question stated in § 4.1-121, then such alcoholic beverages ~~permitted to be sold by such referendum~~
387 may, in accordance with this title, be sold within the county, city, or town on and after ~~sixty~~ 60 days
388 from the day on which the order of the court setting forth the results of such election is entered of
389 record.

390 C. If any referendum is held under the provisions of § 4.1-124 in any county, town, or supervisor's
391 election district of a county and the majority of voters voting in such referendum voted "*Yes*," the sale
392 by the Board of alcoholic beverages, other than beer and wine not produced by farm wineries, shall be
393 ~~permitted prohibited~~ in such county, town, or supervisor's election district of a county. Notwithstanding
394 this section and any referendum held under § 4.1-121 to the contrary, persons licensed to sell mixed
395 beverages in such county, town, or supervisor's election district of a county shall also be permitted to
396 sell wine and beer for on-premises consumption, provided the appropriate license fees are paid for the
397 privilege.

398 D. The provisions of this section shall not prevent in any county, city, or town, the sale and delivery
399 or shipment of alcoholic beverages specified in § 4.1-200 to and by persons therein authorized to sell
400 alcoholic beverages, nor prevent the delivery or shipment of alcoholic beverages under Board regulations
401 into any county, city, or town, except as otherwise prohibited by this title.

402 E. For the purpose of this section, when any referendum is held in any town, separate and apart from
403 the county in which such town or a part thereof is located, such town shall be treated as being separate
404 and apart from such county.

405 **§ 4.1-124. Referendum on the sale of mixed beverages.**

406 A. The provisions of this title relating to the sale of mixed beverages shall ~~not become~~ *be* effective
407 in any town, county, or supervisor's election district of a county ~~until unless~~ a majority of the voters
408 voting in a referendum vote ~~affirmatively~~ "*Yes*" on the question of whether ~~the sale of~~ mixed alcoholic
409 beverages ~~should be sold~~ by restaurants licensed under this title ~~should be prohibited~~. The qualified
410 voters of a town, county, or supervisor's election district of a county may file a petition with the circuit
411 court of the county asking that a referendum be held on the question of whether the sale of mixed
412 beverages by restaurants licensed by the Board should be ~~permitted prohibited~~ within that jurisdiction.
413 The petition shall be signed by qualified voters equal in number to at least 10 percent of the number
414 registered in the town, county, or supervisor's election district on January 1 preceding its filing or at
415 least 100 qualified voters, whichever is greater.

416 Petition requirements for any county shall be based on the number of registered voters in the county,
417 including the number of registered voters in any town having a population in excess of 1,000 located
418 within such county. Upon the filing of a petition, and under no other circumstances, the court shall order
419 the election officials of the county to conduct a referendum on the question.

420 The clerk of the circuit court of the county shall publish notice of the referendum in a newspaper of
421 general circulation in the town, county, or supervisor's election district once a week for three consecutive
422 weeks prior to the referendum.

423 The question on the ballot shall be:

424 "Shall the sale of mixed alcoholic beverages by restaurants licensed by the Virginia Alcoholic
425 Beverage Control Authority be ~~permitted prohibited~~ in (name of town, county, or supervisor's
426 election district of county)?"

427 The referendum shall be ordered and held and the results certified as provided in Article 5

428 (§ 24.2-681 et seq.) of Chapter 6 of Title 24.2. Thereupon the court shall enter of record an order
429 certified by the clerk of the court to be transmitted to the Board and to the governing body of the town
430 or county. Mixed beverages ~~permitted to be sold~~ *prohibited from sale* by such referendum ~~may in~~
431 ~~accordance with this title shall not~~ be sold by restaurants licensed by the Board within the town, county,
432 or supervisor's election district of a county on or after 30 days following the entry of the order if a
433 majority of the voters voting in the referendum have voted "Yes."

434 The provisions of this section shall be applicable to towns having a population in excess of 1,000 to
435 the same extent and subject to the same conditions and limitations as are otherwise applicable to
436 counties under this section. Such towns shall be treated as separate local option units, and only residents
437 of any such town shall be eligible to vote in any referendum held pursuant to this section for any such
438 town. Residents of towns having a population in excess of 1,000, however, shall also be eligible to vote
439 in any referendum held pursuant to this section for any county in which the town is located.

440 ~~The Notwithstanding the provisions of this section shall not require, the sale of mixed beverages by~~
441 ~~restaurants shall be prohibited in any town created as a result of a city-to-town reversion pursuant to~~
442 ~~Chapter 41 (§ 15.2-4100 et seq.) of Title 15.2 to hold a referendum on the same question if a~~
443 ~~referendum on the question of whether the sale of mixed beverages by restaurants licensed under this~~
444 ~~title should be prohibited was previously held in the former city and a majority of the voters voting in~~
445 ~~the former city had previously approved the sale of mixed beverages by restaurants licensed by the~~
446 ~~Board in such city such referendum voted "Yes."~~

447 B. Once a referendum has been held, no other referendum on the same question shall be held in the
448 town, county, or supervisor's election district of a county for a period of 23 months.

449 C. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A, the sale of mixed beverages shall be allowed on
450 property dedicated for industrial or commercial development and controlled through the provision of
451 public utilities and covenanting of the land by any multijurisdictional industrial development authority,
452 as set forth under Chapter 49 (§ 15.2-4900 et seq.) of Title 15.2, provided that (i) such authority
453 operates under a partnership agreement between three or more counties, cities, or towns and such
454 jurisdictions participate administratively and financially in the authority and (ii) the sale of mixed
455 beverages is permitted in one of the member counties, cities, towns, or a supervisor's election district of
456 one of the counties and that the governing board of the authority authorizes an establishment located
457 within the confines of such property to apply to the Board for such license. The appropriate license fees
458 shall be paid for this privilege.

459 D. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A of this section and subsection C of § 4.1-122, the
460 sale of mixed beverages by licensees, and the sale of alcoholic beverages other than beer and wine not
461 produced by farm wineries by the Board, shall be allowed in any city in the Commonwealth.

462 E. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A, the Board may grant a mixed beverage restaurant
463 license to a restaurant located on the premises of and operated by a private club exclusively for its
464 members and their guests, subject to the qualifications and restrictions on the issuance of such license
465 imposed by § 4.1-210. However, no license authorized by this subsection shall be granted if the private
466 club restricts its membership on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin or sex.

467 **§ 4.1-221.1. Limitation of tasting licenses.**

468 Samples of alcoholic beverages given or sold by a licensee shall not exceed two ounces per person
469 of each product tasted, provided that (i) in the case of wine or beer, no more than four products shall be
470 offered or (ii) in the case of spirits, no more than two products shall be offered. Tasting licenses for
471 mixed beverages shall only be issued for events to be held in localities ~~which have approved that do not~~
472 ~~prohibit~~ the sale of mixed beverages pursuant to § 4.1-124. No license shall be issued to any person to
473 whom issuance of a retail license is prohibited. No more than four tasting licenses annually shall be
474 issued to any person. The provisions of this section shall not apply to tastings conducted pursuant to
475 § 4.1-201.1.

476 **2. That § 4.1-126 of the Code of Virginia is repealed.**

477 **3. That notwithstanding the provisions of § 4.1-124 of the Code of Virginia, as amended by this**
478 **act, mixed beverage licenses may be granted to any establishment described in § 4.1-126 of the**
479 **Code of Virginia, as it was in effect prior to the effective date of this act, subject to all other**
480 **applicable provisions of Title 4.1 of the Code of Virginia and regulations of the Board of Directors**
481 **of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority.**

482 **4. That the result of any referendum held prior to the effective date of this act by a town, county,**
483 **or supervisor's election district of a county under the provisions of § 4.1-124 or 4.1-121 of the**
484 **Code of Virginia, as those sections were in effect prior to the effective date of this act, shall**
485 **remain valid and enforceable.**