

SHORT TITLE: Intoxicating liquors; modifying acts authorized by mixed beverage and package store licenses; repealing gross receipts tax and levying in lieu tax; codification; emergency.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 45th Legislature (1995)
SENATE BILL NO. 496 By: Herbert

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to intoxicating liquors; amending 37 O.S. 1991, Sections 518.1, as amended by Section 4, Chapter 361, O.S.L. 1994, 521, as last amended by Section 6, Chapter 361, O.S.L. 1994, 534 and 594.1 (37 O.S. Supp. 1994, Sections 518.1 and 521), which relate to the Oklahoma Alcoholic Beverage Control Act; modifying entities from which certain alcoholic beverages may be purchased; modifying acts authorized by package store license and mixed beverage license; limiting sizes of containers of alcoholic beverages stocked in and sold by means of mini-bars; levying beverage tax in lieu of mixed beverage gross receipts tax; specifying rate thereof; specifying procedures for collection and payment; specifying duties of Tax Commission; providing that failure to remit or pay tax constitutes embezzlement and providing penalty; providing for apportionment of revenues; repealing 37 O.S. 1991, Sections 576, 577, as amended by Section 5, Chapter 258, O.S.L. 1994, 577, as amended by Section 19, Chapter 361, O.S.L. 1994, 578, as amended by Section 20, Chapter 361, O.S.L. 1994, 579, 580, 581, 581.1, 582, 583 and 584, as amended by Sections 21, 22 and 23, Chapter 361, O.S.L. 1994, 585, 586 and 587 (37 O.S. Supp. 1994, Sections 577, 578, 582, 583 and 584), which relate to gross receipts taxes and identification stamps; providing for codification; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 37 O.S. 1991, Section 518.1, as amended by Section 4, Chapter 361, O.S.L. 1994 (37 O.S. Supp. 1994, Section 518.1), is amended to read as follows:

Section 518.1 All holders of a mixed beverage, beer and wine, caterer, special event, or airline/railroad beverage license shall purchase alcoholic beverages only from a licensed wholesaler or, Class B wholesaler or retail package store.

A wholesaler or Class B wholesaler may deliver such products to licensees authorized to sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption. Provided such licensees may pick up alcoholic beverage orders if they hold a private carrier license issued by the Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement Commission.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 37 O.S. 1991, Section 521, as last amended by Section 6, Chapter 361, O.S.L. 1994 (37 O.S. Supp. 1994, Section 521), is amended to read as follows:

Section 521. A. A brewer license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to manufacture, bottle, package, and store beer on licensed premises; to sell beer in this state to holders of Class B wholesaler licenses and retail licenses; and to sell beer out of this state to qualified persons.

B. A distiller license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to manufacture, bottle, package, and store spirits on licensed premises; to sell spirits in this state to licensed wholesalers and manufacturers only; to sell spirits out of this state to qualified persons; to purchase from licensed distillers and rectifiers in this state,; and to import spirits from without this state for manufacturing purposes in accordance with federal laws and regulations.

C. A winemaker license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to manufacture (including such mixing, blending and cellar treatment as authorized by federal law), bottle, package, and store on licensed premises wine containing not more than twenty-four percent (24%) alcohol by volume; to sell wine in this state to licensed wholesalers and manufacturers only; to sell bottles of wine produced at the winery from grapes and other fruits and berries grown in this state to consumers on the premises of the winery; to serve visitors on the licensed premises free samples of wine produced on the premises; to sell wine out of this state to qualified persons; to purchase from licensed winemakers, distillers and rectifiers in this state,; and to import into this state wine, brandy and fruit spirits for use in manufacturing in accordance with federal laws and regulations.

D. A rectifier license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to rectify spirits and wines, bottle, package, and store same on the licensed premises; to sell spirits and wines in this state to licensed wholesalers and manufacturers only; to sell spirits and wines out of this state to qualified persons; to purchase from licensed manufacturers in this state; and to import into this state for manufacturing purposes spirits and wines in accordance with federal laws and regulations.

E. A wholesaler license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to purchase and import into this state spirits and wines from persons authorized to sell same who are the holders of a nonresident seller license, and their agents who are the holders of manufacturers agent licenses; to purchase spirits and wines from licensed distillers, rectifiers, winemakers and wholesalers in this state; to sell spirits and wines in retail containers in this state to retailers, mixed beverage,

caterer, special event, hotel beverage or airline/railroad beverage licensees; to sell spirits and wines in containers with a capacity of less than one-twentieth (1/20) gallon in full case lots and in the original unbroken case to hotel beverage or airline/railroad beverage licensees only; to sell spirits and wines to wholesalers authorized to sell same; and to sell spirits and wines out of this state to qualified persons. Wholesalers shall be authorized to place such signs outside their place of business as are required by Acts of Congress and by such laws and regulations promulgated under such Acts.

A wholesaler license shall authorize the holder thereof to operate a single bonded warehouse with a single central office together with delivery facilities at a location in this state only at the principal place of business for which the wholesaler license was granted.

F. A Class B wholesaler license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to purchase and import into this state beer from persons authorized to sell same who are the holders of nonresident seller licenses, and their agents who are the holders of manufacturers agent licenses to purchase beer from licensed brewers and Class B wholesalers in this state; to sell in retail containers to retailers, mixed beverage, caterer, special event, hotel beverage and airline/railroad beverage licensees in this state, beer which has been unloaded and stored at the holder's self-owned or leased and self-operated warehouse facilities for a period of at least twenty-four (24) hours before such sale; and to sell beer in this state to Class B wholesalers and out of this state to qualified persons, including federal instrumentalities and voluntary associations of military personnel on federal enclaves in this state over which this state has ceded jurisdiction.

G. A package store license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to purchase alcoholic beverages in retail containers with a capacity of more than one-twentieth (1/20) gallon from the holder of a brewer, wholesaler or Class B wholesaler license and to sell same on the licensed premises in such containers to consumers for off-premises consumption only and not for resale to consumers at retail and to holders of mixed beverage, caterer, special event and airline/railroad beverage licenses; provided, all alcoholic beverages are to be sold at ordinary room temperature. No package store licensee may purchase or sell alcoholic beverages in retail containers with a capacity of less than one-twentieth (1/20) gallon.

H. A mixed beverage license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to purchase alcoholic beverages in retail containers with a capacity of more than one-twentieth (1/20) gallon from the holder of a wholesaler or, Class B wholesaler or package store license and to sell, offer for sale and possess mixed beverages for on-premises consumption only. Sales and service of mixed beverages by holders of mixed beverage licenses shall be limited to the licensed premises of said licensee unless the holder of the mixed beverage license also obtains a caterer license. A mixed beverage license shall only be issued in counties of this state where the sale of alcoholic beverages by the individual drink for on-premises consumption has been authorized. A separate license shall be required for each place of business. No mixed beverage license shall be issued for any place of business functioning as a motion picture theater, as defined by Section 506 of this title.

I. A bottle club license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to store, possess and mix alcoholic beverages belonging to members of the club and to serve such alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption to

club members. A bottle club license shall only be issued in counties of this state where the sale of alcoholic beverages by the individual drink for on-premises consumption has not been authorized. A separate license shall be required for each place of business.

J. A caterer license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to sell mixed beverages for on-premises consumption incidental to the sale or distribution of food at particular functions, occasions, or events which are temporary in nature. A caterer license shall not be issued in lieu of a mixed beverage license. A caterer license shall only be issued in counties of this state where the sale of alcoholic beverages by the individual drink for on-premises consumption has been authorized. A separate license shall be required for each place of business.

K. A special event license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to sell and distribute mixed beverages for consumption on the premises for which the license has been issued for a period not to exceed ten (10) consecutive days. A special event license shall only be issued in counties of this state where the sale of alcoholic beverages by the individual drink for on-premises consumption has been authorized.

L. A hotel beverage license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to sell or serve alcoholic beverages in 50 milliliter spirits, 187 milliliter wine, and 12-ounce malt beverage containers which are distributed from a hotel room mini-bar. A hotel beverage license shall only be issued in counties of this state where the sale of alcoholic beverages by the individual drink for on-premises consumption has been authorized. A hotel beverage license shall only be issued to a hotel or motel as defined by Section 506 of this title which is also the holder of a mixed beverage license. Provided, that application may be made simultaneously for both such licenses. A separate license shall be required for each place of business.

M. An airline/railroad beverage license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to sell or serve alcoholic beverages in or from any size container on a commercial passenger airplane or railroad operated in compliance with a valid license, permit or certificate issued under the authority of the United States or this state, even though the airplane or train, in the course of its travel, may cross an area in which the sale of alcoholic beverages by the individual drink is not authorized and to store alcoholic beverages in sealed containers of any size at any airport or station regularly served by the licensee, in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement Commission. Alcoholic beverages purchased by the holder of an airline/railroad license from the holder of a wholesaler license shall be presumed to be purchased for consumption outside the State of Oklahoma or in interstate commerce, and shall be exempt from the excise tax provided for in Section 553 of this title.

N. An agent license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to represent only the holders of licenses within this state, other than retailers, authorized to sell alcoholic beverages to retail dealers in Oklahoma, and to solicit and to take orders for the purchase of alcoholic beverages from retailers including licensees authorized to sell alcoholic beverages by the individual drink for on-premises consumption. Such license shall be issued only to agents and employees of the holder of a license under the Oklahoma Alcoholic Beverage Control Act, Section 501 et seq. of this title but no such license shall be required of an employee making sales of alcoholic beverages on licensed premises of his principal. No person

holding an agent license shall be entitled to a manufacturers agent license.

O. An employee license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to work in a brewery, distillery, winery, package store, mixed beverage establishment, bottle club, or any establishment where alcohol, alcoholic beverage, wine or beer is made, blended, rectified, sold, mixed, or served. Persons employed by a mixed beverage licensee or a bottle club who do not participate in the service, mixing, or sale of mixed beverages shall not be required to have an employee license. Provided, however, that a manager employed by a mixed beverage licensee or a bottle club shall be required to have an employee license whether or not said manager participates in the service, mixing or sale of mixed beverages.

Applicants for an employee license must have a health card issued by the county in which they are employed, if the county issues such a card.

Employees of special event, caterer or airline/railroad beverage licensees shall not be required to obtain an employee license. Persons employed by a hotel licensee who participate in the stocking of hotel room mini-bars or in the handling of alcoholic beverages to be placed in such devices shall be required to have an employee license.

P. An industrial license may be issued to persons desiring to import, transport, and use alcohol for the following purposes:

1. Manufacture of patent, proprietary, medicinal, pharmaceutical, antiseptic, and toilet preparations;
2. Manufacture of extracts, syrups, condiments, and food products; and
3. For use in scientific, chemical, mechanical, industrial, and medicinal products and purposes.

No other provisions of the Oklahoma Alcoholic Beverage Control Act shall apply to alcohol intended for industrial, medical, mechanical, or scientific use.

Any person receiving alcohol under authority of an industrial license who shall use, permit, or cause same to be used for purposes other than authorized purposes specified above, and all such alcohol, shall be liable to all provisions of the Oklahoma Alcoholic Beverage Control Act, including payment of tax thereon.

No provisions of the Oklahoma Alcoholic Beverage Control Act shall apply to alcohol withdrawn by any person free of federal tax under a tax-free permit issued by the United States government, if such alcohol is received, stored, and used as authorized by federal laws.

Q. A carrier license may be issued to any common carrier operating under a certificate of convenience and necessity issued by any duly authorized federal or state regulatory agency. Such license shall authorize the holder thereof to transport alcoholic beverages into, within, and out of this state under such terms, conditions, limitations, and restrictions as the ABLE Commission may prescribe by order issuing such license and by regulations.

R. A private carrier license may be issued to any carrier other than a common carrier described in subsection P of this section. Such license shall authorize the holder thereof to transport alcoholic beverages into, within, or out of this state under such terms, conditions, limitations, and restrictions as the ABLE Commission may prescribe by order issuing such license and by regulations. No carrier license or private carrier license shall be required of licensed brewers, distillers, winemakers, rectifiers, wholesalers, or Class B wholesalers, to transport alcoholic beverages from the place of purchase or acquisition to the licensed

premises of such licensees and from such licensed premises to the licensed premises of the purchaser in vehicles owned or leased by such licensee when such transportation is for a lawful purpose and not for hire.

No carrier license or private carrier license shall be required of the holder of a package store, mixed beverage, caterer, special event, hotel beverage or airline/railroad license to pick up alcoholic beverage orders from the licensee wholesaler or Class B wholesaler from whom they are purchased, and to transport such alcoholic beverages from the place of purchase or acquisition to the licensed premise of such licensees in vehicles owned or under the control of such licensee or a licensed employee of such licensee under such terms, conditions, limitations and restrictions as the ABLE Commission may prescribe.

S. A bonded warehouse license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to receive and store alcoholic beverages for the holders of storage licenses on the licensed premises of the bonded warehouse licensee. No goods, wares or merchandise other than alcoholic beverages may be stored in the same bonded warehouse with alcoholic beverages. The holder of a bonded warehouse license shall furnish and file with the ABLE Commission a bond running to all bailers of alcoholic beverages under proper storage licenses and their assignees (including mortgagees or other bona fide lienholders) conditioned upon faithful performance of the terms and conditions of such bailments.

T. A storage license may be issued to a holder of a brewer, distiller, winemaker, rectifier, wholesaler, Class B wholesaler, nonresident seller, package store, mixed beverage, caterer, or hotel beverage license, and shall authorize the holder thereof: To to store alcoholic beverages in a public warehouse holding a bonded warehouse license, and no goods, wares or merchandise other than alcoholic beverages may be stored in the same warehouse with alcoholic beverages in private warehouses owned or leased and operated by such licensees elsewhere than on their licensed premises. Provided, that a storage license issued to a Class B wholesaler shall permit the storage of light beer and permit the sale and delivery to retailers from the premises covered by such license. Provided further, that any licensee who is the holder of both a mixed beverage license and a caterer license or a mixed beverage license and a hotel beverage license who is issued a storage license shall store all inventories of alcoholic beverages either on the premises of the mixed beverage establishment or in the warehouse.

U. A sacramental wine supplier license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to sell, ship or deliver sacramental wine to any religious corporation or society of this state holding a valid exemption from taxation issued pursuant to Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, 1986, 26 U.S.C., Section 501(a), and listed as an exempt organization in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, 1986, of the United States, as amended, 26 U.S.C., Section 501(c)(3).

V. A beer and wine license shall authorize the holder thereof: To to purchase beer and wine in retail containers with a capacity of more than one-twentieth (1/20) gallon from the holder of a wholesaler or Class B wholesaler license and to sell, offer for sale and possess beer and wine for on-premises consumption only. Sales and service of beer and wine by holders of beer and wine licenses shall be limited to the licensed premises of said licensee unless the holder of the beer and wine license also obtains a caterer license. A beer and wine license shall only be

issued in counties of this state where the sale of alcoholic beverages by the individual drink for on-premises consumption has been authorized. A separate license shall be required for each place of business. No beer and wine license shall be issued for any place of business functioning as a motion picture theater, as defined by Section 506 of this title. No spirits shall be stored, possessed or consumed on the licensed premises of a beer and wine licensee.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 37 O.S. 1991, Section 534, is amended to read as follows:

Section 534. A. No package store license shall be issued for premises unless said premises are separated from premises on which any other goods, wares or merchandise are sold or services are rendered by nontransparent walls which may be broken by a passageway to which the public is not admitted. Provided, it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to take any alcoholic beverage from such store through said passageway for the purpose of selling, reselling, or delivering in connection with the sale of said alcoholic beverage. Such licenses shall apply only to the premises described in the application. No person may own any interest in more than one package store. For the purpose only of establishing whether or not a person owns an interest in more than one package store license, the spouse of any person or partner and any person having a beneficial interest in any package store shall be deemed to be a partner in said package store. A beneficial interest shall be any interest that benefits from any sales or profits of said package store.

B. Package stores licensed under the Oklahoma Alcoholic Beverage Control Act, Section 501 et seq. of this title, may sell only alcoholic beverages in retail containers as defined in Section 506 of this title, in the original package to consumers at retail for consumption off the premises and to holders of mixed beverage, caterer, special event and airline/railroad beverage licenses. Provided, all alcoholic beverages are to be sold at ordinary room temperature. All retail sales shall be made on the licensed premises and all deliveries off the premises, at retail, of intoxicating liquor or beer are hereby prohibited.

SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 37 O.S. 1991, Section 594.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 594.1 A. A hotel beverage license may be issued to a hotel or motel as defined by Section 506 of Title 37 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title which is also the holder of a mixed beverage license. Provided, that application may be made simultaneously for both such licenses.

B. The Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement Commission shall adopt rules and regulations governing the application for and the issuance of hotel beverage licenses.

C. Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, a hotel may sell alcoholic beverages to its registered guests by means of a mini-bar located in the guestrooms of those registered guests provided that:

1. Access to any mini-bar shall only be by a key, magnetic card or similar device;
2. Access to a mini-bar in a particular guestroom is provided, whether by furnishing a key, magnetic card or similar device only to a registered guest over twenty-one (21) years of age registered to stay in the guestroom;

3. The licensee shall verify that each registered guest to whom a key, magnetic card or similar device to access a mini-bar is to be provided is over twenty-one (21) years of age; and

4. Containers of alcoholic beverages stocked in mini-bars and sold by means of mini-bars shall be limited to the sizes authorized for sale pursuant to a hotel beverage license as provided in Section 521 of this title; and

5. All employees handling the alcoholic beverages to be placed in the mini-bar possess an employee license issued by the ABLE Commission.

SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 576.1 of Title 37, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. A beverage tax in lieu of a mixed beverage gross receipts tax is hereby levied and shall be collected at the point of sale by the wholesaler at the rate of _____ percent (___%) of the wholesale price.

B. On and after September 1, 1995, the due and payable tax levied pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be paid by tax returns filed with the Oklahoma Tax Commission. The tax returns shall be made under oath by the person liable for collection of the tax on forms prescribed and provided by the Tax Commission and shall be accompanied by payment of the taxes due and any additional amounts due as provided by this section. Tax returns and payment of tax and other amounts due shall be delivered to the Tax Commission no later than the tenth day of the month immediately following the month of first sale of the alcoholic beverages.

C. For the purpose of collecting and remitting the tax imposed pursuant to the provisions of this section, the person liable for such tax is hereby declared to be the agent of the state for such purposes, and his or her failure to remit or pay such tax to the state, when due, shall constitute embezzlement, and any such person, upon conviction, shall be punished as provided by law for the embezzlement of public funds.

D. All revenues generated from the tax levied pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be paid to the State Treasurer and placed to the credit of the General Revenue Fund of the State of Oklahoma.

SECTION 6. REPEALER 37 O.S. 1991, Sections 576, 577, as amended by Section 5, Chapter 258, O.S.L. 1994, 577, as amended by Section 19, Chapter 361, O.S.L. 1994, 578, as amended by Section 20, Chapter 361, O.S.L. 1994, 579, 580, 581, 581.1, 582, 583 and 584, as amended by Sections 21, 22 and 23, Chapter 361, O.S.L. 1994, 585, 586 and 587 (37 O.S. Supp. 1994, Sections 577, 578, 582, 583 and 584), are hereby repealed.

SECTION 7. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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