ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES: Provides relative to private events at brewing facilities

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 26:241(15) and to enact R.S. 26:309, relative to alcohol beverage control; to provide relative to brewing facilities; to authorize manufacturers or brewers to host private events at brewing facilities; to provide for certain restrictions with respect to private events at brewing facilities; to authorize manufacturers or brewers to charge certain fees for private events at brewing facilities; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 26:241(15) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 26:309 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§241. Definitions

The following terms have the respective meanings ascribed to them except in those instances where the context indicates a different meaning:

(15) "Manufacturer or brewer" means any person who, directly or indirectly, personally or through any agency, person, or establishment, engages in the making, blending, rectifying, brewing, or other processing of alcoholic beverages in Louisiana or outside the state for shipments to licensed wholesale dealers within the state subject to the provisions of R.S. 26:364. A manufacturer or brewer who operates a brewing facility entirely located in the state of Louisiana may sell or serve
only those products brewed at that facility to the public only at that facility for
consumption on or off the premises but not for resale. The total amount of such sales
to the public for any given month shall not exceed ten percent of the total amount of
product brewed at that facility monthly or two hundred fifty barrels, whichever is
greater. A manufacturer or brewer who operates a brewing facility entirely located
in the state of Louisiana may host private events at the brewery pursuant to the
provisions of R.S. 26:309. Any manufacturer or brewer who sells its products to the
public pursuant to this Paragraph shall remit all state and parish or municipal sales
and excise taxes to the proper tax collecting authority for all products sold to the
public. A manufacturer or brewer who sells or serves its products to the public
pursuant to this Paragraph, shall comply with all local zoning laws and regulations.

§309. Private events at brewer facilities

A brewer may lease its facility to a third party for no more than twelve
private events per year during which wine and sparkling wine may be served to
guests of the private event if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) A copy of the lease is provided to the commissioner at least ten days
prior to the event.

(2) The brewer may charge a reasonable rental fee to the third party for the
private event.

(3) The third party or brewer shall not charge a cover charge, entry fee, or
sell entry tickets in connection with the event.

(4) No food or beverages shall be sold to guests of the private event.

(5) The third party may serve to guests alcoholic beverages manufactured by
the brewer. The brewer shall not charge the third party more than its standard prices
for such products.

(6) The third party may serve food to guests. Such food shall be prepared
either by the third party or by a restaurant or caterer hired by the third party to
prepare and serve the food.
(7) Minors shall be allowed in the bar area of the facility during the private event.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 523 Original 2022 Regular Session LaCombe

Abstract: Authorizes manufacturers or brewers to host up to 12 private events at the brewing facility and provides certain restrictions for such events.

Present law, in part, defines "manufacturer or brewer" as any person who personally or otherwise engages in the making, blending, rectifying, brewing, or other processing of alcoholic beverages for shipments to licensed wholesale dealers within the state.

Present law provides that a manufacturer or brewer may sell or serve only those products brewed at a La. facility to the public only at that facility for consumption on or off the premises but not for resale.

Present law further provides that the total amount of sales to the public for any given month shall not exceed 10% of the total amount of the product brewed monthly or 250 barrels, whichever is greater.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that a manufacturer or brewer who operates a brewing facility entirely located in this state may host private events held at a brewing facility if the following conditions are met:

(1) A copy of the lease is provided to the commissioner at least ten days prior to the event.

(2) The brewer may charge a reasonable rental fee to the third party for the private event.

(3) The third party or brewer shall not charge a cover charge, entry fee, or sell entry tickets in connection with the event.

(4) No food or beverages shall be sold to guests of the private event.

(5) The third party may serve to guests alcoholic beverages manufactured by the brewer, but the brewer shall not charge the third party more than its standard prices for such products.

(6) The third party may serve to guests food that is prepared either by the third party or by a restaurant or caterer hired by the third party to prepare and serve the food.

(7) Minors shall be allowed in the bar area of the facility during the private event.

(Amends R.S. 26:241(15); Adds R.S. 26:309)