

**2019 Senate Bill 203 (LRB -2011)**

An Act to amend 125.17 (1), 125.17 (4) (intro.), 125.17 (5) (b), 125.17 (6) (a) (intro.) and 125.17 (6) (b) of the statutes; relating to: issuance by municipalities of alcohol beverage operator's licenses.

**2019**

05-08.	S.	Introduced by Senators <b>Kapenga, Kooyenga, Nass, Stroebel</b> and <b>Wanggaard</b> ; cosponsored by Representatives <b>Knodl, Ballweg, Duchow, Kitchens, Kurtz, Mursau, Plumer, Rohrkaste, Sanfelippo, Schraa, Skowronski, Spiros, Steffen, Subeck, Tittl</b> and <b>Zimmerman</b> . ....	182
05-08.	S.	Read first time and referred to Committee on Public Benefits, Licensing and State-Federal Relations .....	182
05-10.	S.	Representative Wichgers added as a cosponsor .....	194
06-24.	S.	Senator Bewley added as a coauthor .....	274
09-10.	S.	Public hearing held	
09-26.	S.	Executive action taken	
09-26.	S.	Report passage recommended by Committee on Public Benefits, Licensing and State-Federal Relations, Ayes 5, Noes 0 .....	401
09-26.	S.	Available for scheduling	
10-04.	S.	Placed on calendar 10-8-2019 pursuant to Senate Rule 18(1) .....	419
10-08.	S.	Read a second time .....	427
10-08.	S.	Ordered to a third reading .....	427
10-08.	S.	Rules suspended .....	427
10-08.	S.	Read a third time and <b>passed</b> .....	427
10-08.	S.	Ordered immediately messaged .....	428
10-08.	A.	Received from Senate .....	311

**2020**

02-18.	A.	Read first time and referred to committee on Rules .....	606
02-18.	A.	Made a special order of business at 11:30 AM on 2-20-2020 pursuant to Assembly Resolution 21 .....	625
02-20.	A.	Read a second time	
02-20.	A.	Ordered to a third reading	
02-20.	A.	Rules suspended	
02-20.	A.	Read a third time and <b>concurred in</b>	
02-20.	A.	Ordered immediately messaged	
02-21.	S.	Received from Assembly concurred in	

DW



19en S B-203

**ENROLLED BILL**

**Adopted Documents**

Original       Engrossed       Substitute Amdt      19 2011 / 1

Amendments:  None or  Listed below.

---

---

---

Corrections:  None or  Listed by date below.

---

---

Topic:  Same as relating clause or  Indicated below.

---

---

2/21/10

[Signature]

Date

Enrolling Drafter



State of Wisconsin  
2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

LRB-2011/1  
ARG:cde

## 2019 SENATE BILL 203

May 8, 2019 - Introduced by Senators KAPENGA, KOOYENGA, NASS, STROEBEL and WANGGAARD, cosponsored by Representatives KNODL, BALLWEG, DUCHOW, KITCHENS, KURTZ, MURSAU, PLUMER, ROHRKASTE, SANFELIPPO, SCHRAA, SKOWRONSKI, SPIROS, STEFFEN, SUBECK, TITTL and ZIMMERMAN. Referred to Committee on Public Benefits, Licensing and State-Federal Relations.

1     **AN ACT to amend** 125.17 (1), 125.17 (4) (intro.), 125.17 (5) (b), 125.17 (6) (a)  
2             (intro.) and 125.17 (6) (b) of the statutes; **relating to:** issuance by  
3             municipalities of alcohol beverage operator's licenses.

---

*Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

This bill allows a municipal governing body to delegate authority to issue operator's licenses (commonly referred to as "bartender's licenses") to a designated municipal official.

Under current law, a municipal governing body must issue an operator's license to a qualified applicant. Although a person is not required to hold an operator's license to provide alcohol beverages on retail licensed premises, a retail licensee may not be open for business unless the licensee, the designated agent of a corporate licensee, or a person who possesses an operator's license or manager's license is present and responsible for the acts of all persons providing alcohol beverages on the premises.

This bill allows the governing body of a municipality, by ordinance, to authorize a designated municipal official to issue operator's licenses.

---

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

4             **SECTION 1.** 125.17 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

**SENATE BILL 203****SECTION 1**

1           125.17 (1) AUTHORIZATION. Every municipal governing body shall issue an  
2 operator's license to any applicant who is qualified under s. 125.04 (5), except that  
3 the municipal governing body may by ordinance authorize a designated municipal  
4 official to issue operator's licenses. Operators' licenses may not be required other  
5 than for the purpose of complying with ss. 125.32 (2) and 125.68 (2) or s. 125.06 (3g).  
6 Operators' licenses may be issued only upon written application.

7           **SECTION 2.** 125.17 (4) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

8           125.17 (4) TEMPORARY LICENSE. (intro.) Any municipal governing body or  
9 designated municipal official may issue a temporary operator's license under the  
10 terms of subs. (1) to (3), except that:

11           **SECTION 3.** 125.17 (5) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

12           125.17 (5) (b) A provisional license may be issued only to a person who has  
13 applied for an operator's license under sub. (1). A provisional license may not be  
14 issued to any person who has been denied a license under sub. (1) by the municipal  
15 governing body or designated municipal official.

16           **SECTION 4.** 125.17 (6) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

17           125.17 (6) (a) (intro.) Except as provided in par. (b), no municipal governing  
18 body or designated municipal official may issue an operator's license unless the  
19 applicant has successfully completed a responsible beverage server training course  
20 at any location that is offered by a technical college district and that conforms to  
21 curriculum guidelines specified by the technical college system board or a  
22 comparable training course, which may include computer-based training and  
23 testing, that is approved by the department or the department of safety and  
24 professional services, or unless the applicant fulfills one of the following  
25 requirements:

