

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOR 2/10/2010

LRB Number	09-3680/1	Introduction Number	AB-0626	Estimate Type	Original
Description Allowing the city of Fort Atkinson to exceed its retail liquor license quota by issuing two additional retail licenses					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Current law prohibits selling alcohol beverages at retail unless the seller possesses a license or permit authorizing the sale. A "Class B" license authorizes the retail sale of liquor for consumption on the premises and, subject to various limitations, the retail sale for consumption off the retail premises. Current law imposes a quota on the number of "Class B" licenses that a municipality may issue, which is determined by a formula based on the number of licenses previously issued and the municipality's population.

Current law also includes, however, certain exemptions from the quota on "Class B" licenses. These exemptions allow the provision of additional "Class B" licenses to or for: (a) a full-service restaurant that has a seating capacity of 300 or more persons; (b) a hotel that has 50 or more rooms and an attached restaurant or a banquet room; (c) an opera house or a theater provided other conditions are met; (d) a village in the northern half of Ozaukee County having a population of more than 4,000; (e) a city immediately adjacent to the southern border of the City of Milwaukee and an eastern boundary of Lake Michigan; (f) a 4th class city in Dane County with a population as of the 2000 Census between 8,000 and 9,000; (g) a 3rd class city in Dane County with a population as of the 2000 Census between 15,000 and 16,000; (h) a municipality enumerated by the Legislature as a "capital improvement area" based upon specified increases in taxable property value; and (i) a full service restaurant located on a golf course in a municipality in Bayfield County with a population between 400 and 500.

This bill authorizes the city of Fort Atkinson to issue two "Class B" licenses for restaurants, in addition to the "Class B" licenses authorized under the city's quota. These new licenses may be renewed, but if such a license is surrendered, not renewed, or revoked, the city cannot reissue the license. The city also cannot issue these licenses later than the first day of the seventh month beginning after the bill's effective date.

This bill will not have any effect on the Department's administrative operations.

Issuing additional two licenses under the quota exemption created by this bill would generate a minor increase in local government revenues and possibly a small increase local government costs.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications