2015 SENATE BILL 60

February 27, 2015 – Introduced by Senators MILLER, GUDEX, RINGHAND, ERPENBACH, L. TAYLOR and LAZICH, cosponsored by Representatives KOOYENGA, DANOU, BERCEAU, SUBECK, THIESFELDT, BROSTOFF and OHNSTAD. Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Small Business, and Tourism.

AN ACT to create 125.53 (3) of the statutes; relating to: taste samples of fermented apple cider provided by a winery.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law defines “wine” to include products that contain at least 0.5 percent but not more than 21 percent alcohol by volume (ABV) and that are obtained from the fermentation of grapes or other fruits, including fermented apple cider. A winery permit authorizes the manufacture and bottling of wine on the winery premises for sale to wholesalers and the provision of taste samples on the winery premises of wine manufactured on the premises.

This bill authorizes a winery to provide, on the winery premises and without charge, taste samples of cider manufactured by another Wisconsin winery. For purposes of the bill, “cider” means fermented apple cider with an alcohol content not exceeding 7 percent ABV. The bill also allows a Wisconsin winery to provide cider to another Wisconsin winery for use by the other winery in providing taste samples.

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

SECTION 1. 125.53 (3) of the statutes is created to read:

125.53 (3) (a) In this subsection, “cider” has the meaning given in s. 139.01 (2m).
(b) In addition to any authorization specified in sub. (1), a winery holding a permit under this section may do any of the following:

1. Provide, on the winery premises, taste samples of cider manufactured by another winery that holds a permit under this section. These taste samples may be provided only to persons who have attained the legal drinking age and, if provided, shall be provided free of charge.

2. Provide cider directly to another winery that holds a permit under this section for use in providing taste samples under subd. 1.