

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2888 Session of  
2004

INTRODUCED BY FICHTER, RAYMOND, RUBLEY, BUNT, WATSON, MCGILL,  
WEBER, DAILEY AND HARPER, OCTOBER 5, 2004

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LIQUOR CONTROL, OCTOBER 5, 2004

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), entitled, as  
2 reenacted, "An act relating to alcoholic liquors, alcohol and  
3 malt and brewed beverages; amending, revising, consolidating  
4 and changing the laws relating thereto; regulating and  
5 restricting the manufacture, purchase, sale, possession,  
6 consumption, importation, transportation, furnishing, holding  
7 in bond, holding in storage, traffic in and use of alcoholic  
8 liquors, alcohol and malt and brewed beverages and the  
9 persons engaged or employed therein; defining the powers and  
10 duties of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board; providing  
11 for the establishment and operation of State liquor stores,  
12 for the payment of certain license fees to the respective  
13 municipalities and townships, for the abatement of certain  
14 nuisances and, in certain cases, for search and seizure  
15 without warrant; prescribing penalties and forfeitures;  
16 providing for local option, and repealing existing laws,"  
17 further providing for limited wineries.

18 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
19 hereby enacts as follows:

20 Section 1. Section 505.2 of the act of April 12, 1951  
21 (P.L.90, No.21), known as the Liquor Code, reenacted and amended  
22 June 29, 1987 (P.L.32, No.14) and amended November 10, 1999  
23 (P.L.514, No.47), December 16, 2002 (P.L.1806, No.221) and July  
24 17, 2003 (P.L.63, No.15), is amended to read:

25 Section 505.2. Limited Wineries.--(a) In the interest of

1 promoting tourism and recreational development in Pennsylvania,  
2 holders of a limited winery license may:

3 (1) Produce alcoholic ciders, wines and wine coolers,  
4 subject to the exceptions provided under this section, only from  
5 [fruits] an agricultural commodity grown in Pennsylvania.

6 (2) Sell alcoholic cider, wine and wine coolers produced by  
7 the limited winery or purchased in bulk in bond from another  
8 Pennsylvania limited winery on the licensed premises, under such  
9 conditions and regulations as the board may enforce, to the  
10 board, to individuals and to brewery, hotel, restaurant, club  
11 and public service liquor licensees, and to Pennsylvania winery  
12 licensees: Provided, That a limited winery shall not, in any  
13 calendar year, purchase alcoholic cider or wine produced by  
14 other limited wineries in an amount in excess of fifty per  
15 centum of the alcoholic cider or wine produced by the purchasing  
16 limited winery in the preceding calendar year. In addition, the  
17 holder of a limited winery license may purchase wine in bottles  
18 from another Pennsylvania limited winery if these wines undergo  
19 a second fermentation process. Such wine may be sold in bottles  
20 bearing the purchasing limited winery's label or the producing  
21 limited winery's label. Such wines, if sold by the board, may be  
22 sold by the producing limited winery to the purchasing limited  
23 winery at a price lower than the price charged by the board.

24 (3) Separately or in conjunction with other limited  
25 wineries, sell alcoholic cider, wine and wine coolers produced  
26 by the limited winery on no more than five (5) board-approved  
27 locations other than the licensed premises, with no bottling or  
28 production requirement at those additional board-approved  
29 locations and under such conditions and regulations as the board  
30 may enforce, to the board, to individuals and to brewery, hotel,

1 restaurant, club and public service liquor licensees. If two or  
2 more limited wineries apply to operate an additional board-  
3 approved location in conjunction with each other, the wineries  
4 need only have one board-approved manager for the location, need  
5 only pay one application fee and need not designate specific or  
6 distinct areas for each winery's licensed area. Each limited  
7 winery must file an application for such an additional board-  
8 approved location, and such location shall count as one of the  
9 five permitted for each limited winery. Each limited winery is  
10 responsible for keeping only its own complete records. A limited  
11 winery may be cited for a violation of the recordkeeping  
12 requirements of sections 512 and 513 pertaining to its own  
13 records only.

14 (4) At the discretion of the board, obtain a special permit  
15 to participate in alcoholic cider, wine and food expositions off  
16 the licensed premises. A special permit shall be issued upon  
17 proper application and payment of a fee of thirty dollars (\$30)  
18 per day for each day of permitted use, not to exceed five (5)  
19 consecutive days. The total number of days for all the special  
20 permits may not exceed forty (40) days in any calendar year. A  
21 special permit shall entitle the holder to engage in the sale of  
22 alcoholic cider or wine produced by the bottle or in case lots  
23 by the permittee under the authority of a limited winery  
24 license. Holders of special permits may provide tasting samples  
25 of wines in individual portions not to exceed one fluid ounce.  
26 Samples at alcoholic cider, wine and food expositions may be  
27 sold or offered free of charge. Except as provided herein,  
28 limited wineries utilizing special permits shall be governed by  
29 all applicable provisions of this act as well as by all  
30 applicable regulations or conditions adopted by the board.

1 For the purposes of this clause, "alcoholic cider, wine and  
2 food expositions" are defined as affairs held indoors or  
3 outdoors with the primary intent of educating those in  
4 attendance of the availability, nature and quality of  
5 Pennsylvania-produced alcoholic ciders and wines in conjunction  
6 with suitable food displays, demonstrations and sales. Alcoholic  
7 cider, wine and food expositions may also include activities  
8 other than alcoholic cider, wine and food displays, including  
9 arts and crafts, musical activities, cultural exhibits,  
10 agricultural exhibits and similar activities.

11 (5) Apply for and hold a hotel liquor license, a restaurant  
12 liquor license or a malt and brewed beverages retail license to  
13 sell for consumption at the restaurant or limited winery on the  
14 licensed winery premises, liquor, wine and malt or brewed  
15 beverages regardless of the place of manufacture under the same  
16 conditions and regulations as any other hotel liquor license,  
17 restaurant liquor license or malt and brewed beverages retail  
18 license.

19 (6) (i) Secure a permit from the board to allow the holder  
20 of a limited winery license to use up to twenty-five per centum  
21 permitted fruit, not wine, in the current year's production.  
22 Each permit is valid only for the calendar year in which it is  
23 issued.

24 (ii) The fee for a permit to import and use permitted fruit  
25 shall be in an amount to be determined by the board.

26 (iii) The purpose of this section is to increase the  
27 productivity of limited wineries while at the same time  
28 protecting the integrity and unique characteristics of wine  
29 produced from fruit primarily grown in this Commonwealth.  
30 Prevailing climatic conditions have a significant impact on the

1 character of the fruit. Accordingly, "permitted fruit" shall  
2 mean fruit grown or juice derived from fruit grown within three  
3 hundred fifty (350) miles of the winery.

4 (iv) The department is authorized to promulgate regulations  
5 requiring the filing of periodic reports by limited wineries to  
6 ensure compliance with the provisions of this section.

7 (v) This clause shall expire on December 31, 2004.

8 (7) The total production of alcoholic ciders, wine and wine  
9 coolers by a limited winery may not exceed two hundred thousand  
10 (200,000) gallons per year.

11 (b) The term "agricultural commodity" as used in this  
12 section shall include any of the following: agricultural,  
13 apicultural, horticultural, silvicultural and viticultural.

14 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.