



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1048

PRINTERS NO. 3863

PRIME SPONSOR: Knowles

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21
State Stores Fund	See fiscal impact	See fiscal impact

SUMMARY: House Bill 1048, printer's number 3863, amends the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L. 90, No. 21), known as the Liquor Code to further provide for licenses and regulations for liquor, alcohol and malt and brewed beverages for certain licensees. This act shall take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: The bill amends Section 470 (Renewal of Licenses; Temporary Provisions for licensees in Armed Service) of the Liquor Code to exempt national veterans' organizations and volunteer fire companies from the \$700 application surcharge for the renewal of restaurant, club or catering club liquor licenses.

House Bill 1048 also removes the liquid fuel prohibition contained in the Liquor Code for restaurant, hotel and club licensees, malt and brewed beverage licensees, and malt and brewed beverage manufacturers, distributors, and importing distributors. In addition, the legislation allows the use of all cash registers by malt or brewed beverage sales by licensees, retail dispenser licensees, and wine expanded permit holders provided the following conditions:

- The building is 11,000 square feet or less.
- The register is in the same building as the licensed premise.
- Registers comply with the signage, staffing, training, carding, scanning, and prohibition on the sharing of data provisions contained in the Liquor Code.
- Notice is provided to the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) on the location of specific registers used and the building size.

The registers used that meet these conditions shall be deemed license areas, but no application beyond notice to the PLCB is required.

FISCAL IMPACT: The PLCB does not specifically track the number of licensees that are national veterans' organizations and volunteer fire companies' licensees, but they estimate the number to be between 1,000 and 1,200. Based on data provided by the PLCB, it is estimated the enactment of this legislation will decrease revenue to the State Stores Fund by approximately \$700,000 to \$840,000 annually.

To the extent which license holders realize increased sales due to the removal of liquid fuel prohibitions and the ability to utilize more cash registers, additional revenue may be received by the Commonwealth, but the amount is indeterminable.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: May 28, 2020

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.