



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1617

PRINTERS NO. 2737

PRIME SPONSOR: Staats

### COST / (SAVINGS)

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

#### SUMMARY:

House Bill 1617, printer's number 2737, amends the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L. 90, No. 21), as reenacted and amended, known as the Liquor Code, to further provide for limiting number of retail licenses to be issued in each county.

The effective date is 60 days after enactment.

#### ANALYSIS:

The bill amends Section 461 of the Liquor Code by adding a clause to allow for the conversion of any hotel liquor license that was approved before September 1, 1949 and applied for an exemption to bedroom requirements prior to January 1, 2019, to a restaurant liquor license upon application to the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) and a payment of a fee of \$30,000 regardless of the county quota restrictions. If the converted license is transferred within a five-year period the seller shall be subject to a fee of twenty-five per centum (25%) or \$30,000, whichever is greater, of the transactional cost for the transfer of the restaurant license.

The ability to convert hotel liquor licenses shall not apply to hotel licensees with pending objections by the director of the Bureau of Licensing or the PLCB, or those in a city of the first class.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

The enactment of this legislation will have no adverse impact on the State Stores Fund and may result in a nominal revenue gain from the conversion of eligible hotel liquor licenses to restaurant liquor licenses.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** October 28, 2019

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