



Staff Report

Subject: State Statute changes regarding Liquor Licenses

Department/Program: Planning/Finance

Explanation: On 7/7/21, the Governor signed Senate Bill 126, which includes changes made to the time parameter within which alcohol is permitted to be sold by retail or by drink for the purpose of consumption. Currently, the City's Code of Ordinances reflects the original time parameters on Sundays which are between 9:00am and 12:00 midnight. SB 126 changes it to between 6:00am Sunday and 1:30 am Monday.

Additionally, SB 126 provides the opportunity for the holder of valid liquor licenses to sell retailer-packaged liquor to a consumer in a container for off-premises consumption (RSMo 311.202). This would permit licensees who sell by the drink to sell their alcohol to-go with some restrictions. This was originally a temporary allowance permitted by the State during the height of the pandemic, but this bill makes the allowance permanent.

Recommendation: Staff seeks direction from the Board on this matter.

It should be noted that the City has the opportunity to keep our current limitations, as they are now more restrictive than those of the State. Any approval to adopt Missouri's new Sunday time parameters or to permit the allowance of alcohol by the drink to be sold to-go will need to be reflected in relevant subsections under Chapter 3.

Further discussion may be required under Chapter 3, Sec. 3-71(b), which references authorization for the sale of alcohol by the drink when New Year's Eve, December 31, falls on a Sunday. This subsection specifically states that the allowance to sell alcohol by the drink only starts past 1:00pm. Given changes to alcohol sale and consumption laws on Sundays since 1973, Staff recommends the discussion of removing this subsection from our Municipal Code due to conflict with modern allowances.

Submitted By: Shawn Edghill

Date: August 26, 2021