



1 SB312

2 JPZTUNN-3

3 By Senators Smitherman, Bell

4 RFD: Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Development

5 First Read: 08-Apr-25

# ACT #2025 - 405





1 Enrolled, An Act,

2  
3  
4 Relating to alcoholic beverages; to provide for an  
5 event storage license that authorizes persons who sell and  
6 dispense alcoholic beverages pursuant to existing special  
7 event licenses to store alcoholic beverages at a permanent  
8 facility for transfer as needed to special event venues; to  
9 provide for a government venue license that authorizes persons  
10 to sell and dispense alcoholic beverages at special events  
11 held on government owned property; to authorize the Alcoholic  
12 Beverage Control Board to administer and enforce these  
13 licenses and to adopt rules; and to amend Section 28-3A-21,  
14 Code of Alabama 1975, to set license fees.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

16 Section 1. The Legislature finds all of the following:

17 (1) A structured framework is needed to allow holders  
18 of certain licenses issued by the Alcoholic Beverage Control  
19 Board which authorize the sale and dispensing of alcoholic  
20 beverages at special events on an occasional use basis to  
21 manage and store their alcoholic beverage inventory at a  
22 secure, permanent location.

23 (2) This act establishes a new category of license  
24 under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board which allows a  
25 holder of certain special event licenses to store and transfer  
26 alcoholic beverages between a designated storage location and  
27 special event venues as needed.

28 (3) This act also establishes a new category of special



event license to provide a method for a vendor to sell and dispense alcoholic beverages on state, county, and municipal government owned properties where special events are occasionally held.

Section 2. (a) Upon an eligible applicant's compliance with Chapter 3A of Title 28, Code of Alabama 1975, and rules adopted thereunder and payment of the event storage license fee as established in Section 28-3A-21, Code of Alabama 1975, the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, on and after January 1, 2026, shall issue an event storage license to a person for such period of time not to exceed one year and upon such terms and conditions as the board may prescribe. An event storage license authorizes the licensee to purchase and store alcoholic beverages at one designated location and transfer alcoholic beverages as needed to special event venues where the licensee holds the appropriate special event license under the same Federal Employer Identification Number.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 28-3-4, Code of Alabama 1975, only the holder of one or more of the following special event licenses shall be eligible to make application for and hold an event storage license:

- (1) A special events retail license.
- (2) A nonprofit special events retail license.
- (3) A special retail license for 30 days or less.
- (4) A government venue license.

(c) An event storage license authorizes a licensee to:

- (1) Store alcoholic beverages, when not at a special event venue, at the storage location;



(2) Arrange delivery of alcoholic beverages purchased from the board or a wholesale licensee directly to the licensee's storage location or directly to a special event license venue; and

(3) Transfer alcoholic beverages between the storage location and a special event venue. Alcoholic beverages returned from a special event venue to the storage location may then be transferred to another special event venue, but a licensee may not transfer alcoholic beverages directly from one special event venue to another special event venue without first returning the alcoholic beverages to the storage location.

(d)(1) The holder of an event storage license may only purchase beer and table wine from a licensed wholesaler that maintains the appropriate franchise for the brand purchased in the area applicable to the storage location. The holder of an event storage license may only purchase liquor from board wholesale.

(2) The holder of an event storage license may purchase alcoholic beverages under one of the special events licenses listed in subsection (b) which is issued to the holder; provided, the purchase is made only from a vendor permitted under the special events license and that any remaining alcoholic beverages purchased are returned to the storage location.

(e) The holder of an event storage license may apply for and hold up to three such licenses, each of which permits one designated storage location, provided:



(1) All storage locations are situated at least 100 miles from one another; and

(2) Alcoholic beverages may not be transferred between storage locations.

(f) The storage location facility must:

(1) Be secured at all times with locked access when not in use;

(2) Use an access control system to monitor and restrict entry to authorized individuals only;

(3) Be temperature controlled as appropriate for the types of alcoholic beverages stored; and

(4) Comply with local zoning and building codes.

(g) An event storage licensee shall track all alcoholic beverage transfers, on a form prescribed by the board, which shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following information:

(1) The name under which the event storage license is issued.

(2) The event storage license number.

(3) The date of the transfer.

(4) The type of alcoholic beverage, the brand name, and the quantity transferred.

(5) The destination of the transfer, identified by location, special event license type, and number.

(6) If the destination of the transfer is the return of alcoholic beverages from a special event venue to a storage location, the type of alcoholic beverage, the brand, and the quantity returned.



(7) A signed certification that the transfer is in compliance with this section and board rules.

(h)(1) An event storage licensee shall maintain for a period of three years records of all alcoholic beverages purchased, stored, transferred, and sold in accordance with rules adopted by the board. These records may be maintained in an electronic format so long as the records may be promptly provided in a readable format upon request by the board.

(2) All invoices, transfer logs, and other records of an event storage licensee shall be subject to inspection by members of the board or by agents authorized and designated by the board at any time during the normal business hours established by the licensee.

(3) Inspection by the board or by agents authorized and designated by the board may:

a. Include a search by law enforcement officers with jurisdiction if the circumstances require; and

b. Extend to other buildings attached or adjacent to the storage location, including a dwelling.

(i)(1) If a discrepancy is discovered during an inspection or audit, the board may issue a compliance warning, require immediate corrective action, or issue a citation.

(2) Reoccurring discrepancies discovered by audit or inspection may be considered a violation pursuant to rules adopted by the board.

(3) The board may assess a civil fine of no more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each occurrence that is a violation of this chapter and may revoke the license.



141 (j) The board shall adopt rules to implement this  
142 section.

143 Section 3. (a) Upon an applicant's compliance with  
144 Chapter 3A of Title 28, Code of Alabama 1975, and rules  
145 adopted thereunder and payment of the government venue license  
146 fee as established in Section 28-3A-21, Code of Alabama 1975,  
147 the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board shall issue a government  
148 venue license to a person for such period of time and upon  
149 such terms and conditions as the board may prescribe. A  
150 government venue license authorizes the licensee to purchase  
151 liquor and wine from the board and table wine and beer from  
152 any wholesale licensee and to sell at retail and dispense for  
153 on-premises consumption alcoholic beverages at a location on  
154 property owned or leased by the state or a political  
155 subdivision of the state. Locations may include, but are not  
156 limited to, civic centers and community event spaces; concert  
157 centers, amphitheaters, and music halls; convention centers  
158 and exhibition halls; government owned stadiums and sports  
159 complexes; or historic properties, parks, fairgrounds, or  
160 other outdoor spaces.

161 (b) The government venue license is a special retail  
162 license, and selling and dispensing of alcoholic beverages  
163 shall be restricted to an occasional use basis. For the  
164 purposes of this section, "occasional use basis" refers to a  
165 location where alcoholic beverages are sold and dispensed at  
166 individual events that may be open to the public or restricted  
167 to private parties. The term excludes locations where  
168 alcoholic beverages are dispensed and served to the public



during continual business hours on a regular schedule.

(c) Any holder of a special retail license under Section 28-3A-19, Code of Alabama 1975, may convert the license to a government venue license no later than September 30, 2026; provided, all requirements for issuance of a government venue license are met.

Section 4. Section 28-3A-21, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§28-3A-21

(a) The following annual license fees are levied and prescribed for licenses issued and renewed by the board pursuant to the authority contained in this chapter:

(1) Manufacturer license, license fee of five hundred dollars (\$500).

(2) Importer license, license fee of five hundred dollars (\$500).

(3) Liquor ~~wholesale~~ wholesaler license, license fee of five hundred dollars (\$500).

(4) ~~Wholesaler~~ Beer wholesaler license, ~~beer~~ license fee of five hundred fifty dollars (\$550) ~~or wine license fee of five hundred fifty dollars (\$550); license fee for beer and wine of seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750);~~ plus two hundred dollars (\$200) for each warehouse in addition to the principal warehouse.

(5) Wine wholesaler license, license fee of five hundred fifty dollars (\$550) plus two hundred dollars (\$200) for each warehouse in addition to the principal warehouse.

(6) Beer and wine wholesaler license, license fee of





197 seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750) plus two hundred dollars  
198 (\$200) for each warehouse in addition to the principal  
199 warehouse.

200 (7) Warehouse license, license fee of two hundred  
201 dollars (\$200).

202 ~~(6)~~ (8) Lounge retail liquor license, license fee of  
203 three hundred dollars (\$300).

204 ~~(7)~~ (9) Restaurant retail liquor license, license fee of  
205 three hundred dollars (\$300).

206 ~~(8)~~ (10) Club liquor license, Class I license fee of  
207 three hundred dollars (\$300), Class II license fee of seven  
208 hundred fifty dollars (\$750).

209 ~~(9)~~ (11) Retail table wine license for off-premises  
210 consumption, license fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).

211 ~~(10)~~ (12) Retail table wine license for on-premises and  
212 off-premises consumption, license fee of one hundred fifty  
213 dollars (\$150).

214 ~~(11)~~ (13) Retail beer license for on-premises and  
215 off-premises consumption, license fee of one hundred fifty  
216 dollars (\$150).

217 ~~(12)~~ (14) Retail beer license for off-premises  
218 consumption, license fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).

219 ~~(13)~~ (15) Retail common carrier liquor license, license  
220 fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) for each railroad,  
221 airline, bus line, ship line, vessel, or other common carrier  
222 entity with a vehicle passenger capacity of at least 10  
223 people.

224 ~~(14)~~ (16) Special retail license, license fee of one



225 hundred dollars (\$100) for 30 days or less; license fee of two  
226 hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for more than 30 days.

227 ~~(15)~~ (17) Special events retail license, license fee of  
228 one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).

229 (18) Government venue license, license fee of two  
230 hundred fifty dollars (\$250).

231 (19) Event storage license, license fee of five hundred  
232 fifty dollars (\$550).

233 (b) The license fees levied and fixed by this section  
234 shall be paid before the license is issued or renewed.


235 (c) In addition to the foregoing filing fee and license  
236 taxes or fees, any county or municipality in which the sale of  
237 alcoholic beverages is permitted shall be authorized to fix  
238 and levy privileges or license taxes on any of the foregoing  
239 licenses located or operated therein, conditioned on a permit  
240 or license being issued by the board.

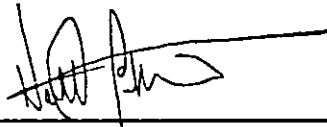
241 (d) No county or municipality shall have any authority  
242 to levy a license or tax of any nature on any liquor store."

243 Section 5. This act shall become effective on July 1,  
244 2025.

SB312 Enrolled



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

SB312

Senate 15-Apr-25

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed  
the Senate, as amended.

Patrick Harris,  
Secretary.

House of Representatives

Passed: 29-Apr-25

By: Senator Smitherman

APPROVED

5.14.2025

TIME

1:15 pm

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR

Alabama Secretary Of State

Act Num....: 2025-405  
Bill Num....: S-312

Recv'd 05/14/25 02:23pmKCW

ENGROSSED

Senate Bill No. 312

NSOR

Matthewman  
SPONSORS

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SENATE ACTION

I hereby certify that the Resolution as required in Section C of Act No. 81-889 was adopted and is attached to the Bill, SB 312.

yeas 30 nays 0 abstain 0

PATRICK HARRIS,  
Secretary

I hereby certify that the notice & proof is attached to the Bill, SB \_\_\_\_\_ as required in the General Acts of Alabama, 1975 Act No. 919.

PATRICK HARRIS,  
Secretary

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Senate Conferees \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

HOUSE ACTION

DATE: 4.17 2025

RD 1 RFD EDST

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

This bill having been referred by the House to its standing committee on EDST was acted upon by such committee in session, and returned therefrom to the House with the recommendation that it be Passed, w/amend(s) \_\_\_\_\_ w/sub \_\_\_\_\_ This 24 day of April, 2025

Andy Smith Chairperson

DATE: 4.24 2025

RF RD 2 CAL

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_

RE-REFERRED ☐ RE-COMMITTED ☐

Committee \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that the Resolution as required in Section C of Act No. 81-889 was adopted and is attached to the Bill, SB 312.

YEAS 86 NAYS 1

JOHN TREADWELL,  
Clerk

FURTHER HOUSE ACTION (OVER)