

Committee on Regulated Industries

CS/HB 623 — Wine

by Regulatory Affairs Committee; and Rep. Artiles and others (CS/CS/SB 658 by Commerce and Tourism Committee; Regulated Industries Committee; and Senators Simpson, Ring, Brandes, Joyner, Hays, Thompson, and Richter)

The bill permits the sale of wine in reusable containers of 5.16 gallons. Current law prohibits the sale of wine in individual containers holding more than 1 gallon. The additional allowable container size would allow retail vendors to use wine kegs to dispense glasses of wine through a tap instead of through individual bottles of wine. The bill also provides that wine sold for off-premises consumption must be in the original, unopened container, except as provided in s. 564.09, F.S., which permits restaurant patrons to leave the restaurant with a partially consumed bottle of wine that has been secured in a bag or other container.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2013.

Vote: Senate 36-0; House 116-0