

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FINAL BILL ANALYSIS**

BILL #:	HB 891	FINAL HOUSE FLOOR ACTION:		
SUBJECT/SHORT TITLE	St. Lucie County	114	Y's 0	N's
SPONSOR(S):	Harrell	GOVERNOR'S ACTION:		Approved
COMPANION BILLS:	N/A			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

HB 891 passed the House on February 14, 2018, and subsequently passed the Senate on March 8, 2018.

In 1967, the Legislature enacted ch. 67-1990, Laws of Florida, to provide specific requirements regarding the issuance of Special Restaurant Beverage (SRX) licenses in St. Lucie County. Under the special act, in St. Lucie County SRX licenses may be issued to any bona fide restaurant with service for 200 or more patrons at tables and occupying more than 4,000 square feet of floor space.

The bill repeals ch. 67-1990, Laws of Florida, relating to the issuance of SRX licenses for restaurants in St. Lucie County. The issuance of subsequent SRX licenses in the county will be as provided under general law.

The bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on state or local government.

The bill was approved by the Governor on March 23, 2018, ch. 2018-169, L.O.F., and became effective on that date.

I. SUBSTANTIVE INFORMATION

A. EFFECT OF CHANGES:

Present Situation

The Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco (DABT) of the Department of Business and Profession Regulation (DBPR) is responsible for the enforcement of Florida's Beverage Laws.

Florida law limits the number of alcoholic beverage licenses that may be issued to one license for every 7,500 residents in a county, known as the "quota". Special Restaurant Beverage (SRX) licenses may be issued in excess of the quota limitations in s. 561.20(1), F.S., and are regulated under Rule 61A-3.0141, F.A.C. To qualify for the SRX license, a restaurant must have a service area of at least 2,500 square feet, be equipped to serve at least 150 persons full meals at one time, and derive at least 51 percent of its revenue from the sale of food and nonalcoholic beverages.

The specific requirements regarding the issuance of SRX licenses in St. Lucie County are found in ch. 67-1990, Laws of Florida. In St. Lucie County, SRX licenses may be issued to any bona fide restaurant with service for 200 or more patrons at tables and occupying more than 4,000 square feet of floor space. Licensees are prohibited from selling alcoholic beverages in packages for consumption off of the premises and from operating as a package store.

Effect of the Bill

The bill repeals ch. 67-1990, Laws of Florida, relating to the issuance of SRX licenses for bona fide restaurants in St. Lucie County. The issuance of subsequent SRX licenses in the county will be as provided under general law.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FILED? Yes No

D. NOTICE PUBLISHED? Yes No

IF YES, WHEN? September 24, 2017

WHERE? *St. Lucie News-Tribune*

E. REFERENDUM(S) REQUIRED? Yes No

IF YES, WHEN?