

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FINAL BILL ANALYSIS

This bill analysis was prepared by nonpartisan committee staff and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

BILL #: [CS/HB 4053](#)

TITLE: Duval County

SPONSOR(S): Duggan, Baker

COMPANION BILL: None

LINKED BILLS: None

RELATED BILLS: None

FINAL HOUSE FLOOR ACTION: 107 Y's

0 N's

GOVERNOR'S ACTION: Approved

SUMMARY

Effect of the Bill:

The bill provides an exception to the Beverage Law allowing the Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco within the Department of Business and Professional Regulation to issue special alcoholic beverage licenses to event centers that meet certain requirements in Jacksonville's Urban Transition Area.

Fiscal or Economic Impact:

The bill may have an indeterminant positive fiscal impact on local revenues from increases in sales tax revenue, licensing revenue, and ad valorem revenue.

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ANALYSIS

EFFECT OF THE BILL:

The bill provides an exception to the Beverage Law to allow the Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco (division) within the Department of Business and Professional Regulation to issue a [special alcoholic beverage license](#) to event centers in the City of Jacksonville's [Urban Transition Area](#) that meet certain requirements. The bill defines an event center as a facility that hosts events with ticketed entrance and does not otherwise market itself as a food service establishment. The bill further provides that a qualifying event center must have an occupancy of 1,100 to 1,400 people and derive no less than 51 percent of its annual gross income from the sale of event center tickets, food, and nonalcoholic beverages. (Section [1](#))

The bill provides that the division may revoke or suspend any license issued pursuant to the bill for violations of the Beverage Law. (Section [1](#))

The bill provides a metes and bounds property description of the Urban Transition Area. (Section [2](#))

The bill was approved by the Governor on June 5, 2025, ch. 2025-243, L.O.F., and became effective on that date. (Section [3](#))

FISCAL OR ECONOMIC IMPACT:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

The bill may have an indeterminant positive fiscal impact on local revenues from increases in sales tax revenue, licensing revenue, and ad valorem revenue.

STORAGE NAME: h4053z1.IAS

DATE: 7/15/2025

RELEVANT INFORMATION

SUBJECT OVERVIEW:

Regulation of Alcoholic Beverages

Florida's Beverage Law¹ regulates the manufacture, distribution, and sale of beer, wine, and liquor.² The Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco (division) within the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) administers and enforces the Beverage Law.³ Under the Beverage Law, there is not a limit on the number of licenses the division may issue to businesses selling malt beverages or wine. However, the number of licenses for selling distilled spirits is limited to one license per 7,500 residents within the county with a minimum of three licenses per county that has approved the sale of intoxicating liquors.⁴ These licenses are known as quota licenses and are the only alcoholic beverage license type that is limited in number.

Special Licenses

There are several exceptions to the quota license limitation.⁵ The division may issue a special license to businesses that meet the requirements set out in one of the exceptions. The special license allows businesses to serve any alcoholic beverages regardless of alcohol content. For example, a caterer may qualify for an exemption if it is licensed by the Division of Hotels and Restaurants within DBPR under ch. 509, F.S., and derives at least 51 percent of its gross food and beverage revenue from the sale of food and non-alcoholic beverages at each catered event.⁶ Current law also allows the division to issue special licenses to civic centers or sports arenas⁷ and performing arts centers.⁸

Urban Transition Area

The City of Jacksonville's Urban Transition Area is the area bounded by I-95 and Dellwood Avenue on the north, the St. Johns River on the east and south, and Margaret Street to the west.⁹ Current law provides for 12 special zones in the City of Jacksonville, within which the division may issue special alcoholic beverage licenses to certain types of establishments meeting certain revenue requirements.¹⁰

Local Bill Forms

The Florida Constitution prohibits the passage of any special act unless a notice of intention to seek enactment of the bill has been published as provided by general law or the act is conditioned to take effect only upon approval by referendum vote of the electors in the area affected.¹¹ A legal advertisement of the proposed bill must be placed in a newspaper of general circulation or published on a publicly accessible website¹² at least 30 days prior to the introduction of the local bill in the House or Senate.¹³ The bill was noticed in the [Jacksonville Daily Record on January 16, 2025](#).

The House local bill policy requires a completed and signed Local Bill Certification Form and Economic Impact Statement Form be filed with the Clerk of the House at the time the local bill is filed or as soon thereafter as

¹ S. [561.01\(6\), F.S.](#), provides that the "the Beverage Law" means chs. 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 567, and 568, F.S.

² S. [561.14, F.S.](#)

³ S. [561.02, F.S.](#)

⁴ S. [561.20\(1\), F.S.](#)

⁵ S. [561.20\(2\), F.S.](#)

⁶ S. [561.20\(2\)\(a\)5](#), F.S. See rule 61A-1.020, F.A.C.

⁷ S. [561.20\(2\)\(h\), F.S.](#), authorizes the division to issue a license for consumption on the premises to any civic center authority or sports arena authority authorized by state law or by a local government ordinance or which is otherwise owned by a political subdivision of Florida.

⁸ S. [561.20\(2\)\(j\), F.S.](#), authorizes the division to issue a license for consumption on the premises to a performing arts center for consumption at an artistic, educational, cultural, promotional, civic, or charitable event authorized or offered by the center.

⁹ City of Jacksonville Ordinances, [656.399.19 Identification of Character Areas](#) (last visited Feb. 27, 2025).

¹⁰ Ch. 87-471, Laws of Fla., as amended by chs. [2011-255](#), [2016-248](#), [2017-213](#), [2022-259](#), and [2023-342](#), Laws of Fla.

¹¹ [Art. III, s. 10, Fla. Const.](#)

¹² S. [50.0311\(2\), F.S.](#)

¹³ S. [11.02, F.S.](#) If there is no newspaper circulated throughout or published in the county and no publicly accessible website has been designated, notice must be posted for at least 30 days in at least three public places in the county, one of which must be at the courthouse.

possible.¹⁴ Under the policy, a committee or subcommittee may not consider a local bill unless these forms have been filed. The following forms have been submitted for the bill:

- [Local Bill Certification Form](#)
- [Economic Impact Statement Form](#)

¹⁴ Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee, [Local Bill Policies and Procedures Manual](#), p. 11 (last visited Feb. 28, 2025).