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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

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A N A C T

RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES

Introduced By: Representative Christopher R. Blazejewski

Date Introduced: March 13, 2015

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 3-7-19 of the General Laws in Chapter 3-7 entitled "Retail
2 Licenses" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **3-7-19. Objection by adjoining property owners -- Proximity to schools and**
4 **churches. --** (a) Retailers' Class B, C and I licenses under this chapter shall not be issued to
5 authorize the sale of beverages in any building where the owner of the greater part of the land
6 within two hundred feet (200') of any point of the building files with the body or official having
7 jurisdiction to grant licenses his or her objection to the granting of the license, nor in any building
8 within two hundred feet (200') of the premises of any public, private, or parochial school or a
9 place of public worship. In the city of East Providence, retailer's Class A licenses shall not be
10 issued to authorize the sale of beverages in any building within five hundred feet (500') of the
11 premises of any public, private, or parochial school, or a place of public worship.

12 (b) As used in this section, "private school" means any nonpublic institution of
13 elementary or secondary (K-12th Grade) education, accredited or recognized as a private school
14 by the department of elementary and secondary education or the school committee of the city or
15 town having jurisdiction over private schools.

16 (c) This section shall not apply to any Class B or C license holder whose license was
17 issued prior to January 1, 1978, nor shall this section apply to, or constitute the basis of, an
18 objection to, or disapproval of, the transfer of a Class B or C license where the location of the
19 licensed establishment predates the location of the public, private, or parochial school, or place of

1 public worship.

2 (d) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses of the city of
3 Providence shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this
4 section any proposed retailer Class B, C, or I license intended to be located within the following
5 described area(s) in the city of Providence:

6 (A) Beginning at a point, that point being the intersection of the southerly line of Smith
7 Street and the easterly taking line of Interstate Route 95;

8 Thence running in a general southwesterly direction along the easterly taking line of
9 Interstate Route 95 to the center line of Kingsley Avenue;

10 Thence turning and running northwesterly in part along the southerly line of Kingsley
11 Avenue to its intersection with the southerly line of Harris Avenue;

12 Thence turning and running westerly along the southerly line of Harris Avenue to its
13 intersection with the southerly line of Atwells Avenue;

14 Thence turning and running easterly along the southerly line of Atwells Avenue to the
15 easterly taking line of Interstate Route 95;

16 Thence turning and running in a general southerly and southeasterly direction along the
17 easterly taking line of Interstate Route 95 to the center line of Pine Street;

18 Thence turning and running northeasterly along the northerly taking line of I-195 to its
19 intersection with the northerly taking line of I-195;

20 Thence turning and running northeasterly along the northerly taking line of I-195 to its
21 intersection with the westerly shore line of the Providence River;

22 Thence turning and running northerly along the westerly shore line of the Providence
23 River to its intersection with the southerly line of Crawford Street;

24 Thence running northwesterly across Dyer Street to the intersection of the westerly line
25 of Dyer Street to the southerly line of Custom House Street;

26 Thence running northerly in part along the southerly line of Dyer Street and in part along
27 the westerly line of Market Square to its intersection with the westerly line of Canal Street;

28 Thence turning and running northerly along the westerly line of Canal Street to its
29 intersection with the southerly line of Smith Street;

30 Thence turning and running westerly along the southerly line of Smith Street to the point
31 and place of beginning.

32 (B) Beginning at a point, that point being the intersection of the westerly line of Brook
33 Street and the northerly line of Wickenden Street;

34 Thence running in a general westerly direction along the northerly line of Wickenden

1 Street to the intersection of Wickenden Street and Benefit Street;

2 Thence running in a general northerly direction along the easterly line of Benefit Street
3 to the intersection of Benefit Street and Sheldon Street;

4 Thence turning and running in an easterly direction along the southerly line of Sheldon
5 Street to the intersection of Sheldon Street and Brook Street;

6 Thence turning and running in a general southerly line to the intersection of Brook Street
7 and Wickenden Street that being the point of beginning; [provided, however, that this exemption](#)
8 [in § 3-7-19 \(d\)\(B\) shall only apply to licenses issued before January 1, 2015.](#)

9 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses of the city of
10 Newport shall, after application, have authority to exempt from the provisions of this section any
11 proposed retailer Class B license intended to be located within the following described area in the
12 city of Newport:

13 Beginning at a point, that point being the intersection of the southerly line of Broadway
14 and the easterly line of Courthouse Square;

15 Thence running in a general northeasterly direction along the southerly line of Broadway
16 a distance of one hundred and two feet (102') to a point at the southeasterly corner of land now or
17 formerly owned by the Newport Historical Society;

18 Thence turning and running in a southeasterly direction ninety-eight and nine-tenths feet
19 (98.9') along the southwesterly border of land now or formerly owned by the Newport Historical
20 Society;

21 Thence turning and running in a southwesterly direction one hundred and twelve feet
22 (112') to Courthouse Street; and

23 Thence turning and running in a generally northwesterly direction along Courthouse
24 Street for a distance of ninety feet (90') to the point and place of beginning.

25 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses of the town of
26 Warren shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this section
27 any proposed retailer Class B, C, or I license intended to be located within any zoning district in
28 the town of Warren which is designated as a limited business district or as a general business
29 district pursuant to the zoning ordinance of the town of Warren.

30 (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses of the town of
31 Bristol shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this section
32 any proposed retailer Class B license intended to be located on lot 34 of tax assessors plat 10 of
33 the Bristol tax assessors map as of December 31, 1999, including that portion of the public
34 sidewalk contiguous to said lot.

1 (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses for the city of
2 Newport shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this section
3 as to places of public worship any proposed sidewalk cafe as defined in the Codified Ordinance
4 of the city of Newport, provided that the applicant be an existing holder of a Retailers' Class B
5 license.

6 (6) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses of the city of
7 Providence shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this
8 section any proposed retailer Class B license intended to be located on lot 131 of tax assessors
9 plat 68 of the Providence tax assessors map as of December 31, 1999 and any proposed retailer
10 Class B license intended to be located on lot 21 of the tax assessors map plat 49 and any proposed
11 retailer class BV license intended to be located on lots 3 and 5 of tax assessors map plat 35 of the
12 Providence tax assessors map as of December 31, 2003.

13 (7) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses of the city of
14 Cranston shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this section
15 any proposed retailer Class B license intended to be located on either lot 160 of tax assessor's plat
16 9, and/or on lot 152 of tax assessor's plat 9, of the Cranston tax assessor's map as of December 31,
17 2002; provided, however, as to the subsequent transfer of said Class B license issued by the city
18 of Cranston under this exemption, whether said transfer is attributable to the holder's death or
19 otherwise, any person desiring to become the potential transferee of said Class B license shall
20 comply with those restrictions as to its use (and shall refrain from those activities which result in
21 its reversion) set forth in the city of Cranston Memorandum of Understanding dated May 13,
22 2003 and, in addition, those requirements applicable to anyone who desires to become a
23 transferee of a validly issued and outstanding Class B license designated for use in any location in
24 the state of Rhode Island. Neither the exemption granted herein nor any future exemption granted
25 hereafter shall be effective until the proposed Class B license and the underlying property owner
26 is certified to be current in the payment of any and all local and state taxes.

27 (8) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses of the city of
28 Pawtucket shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this section
29 any proposed retailer Class B, C, or I license intended to be located within the following
30 described area in the city of Pawtucket:

31 Beginning at the point of intersection of Dexter Street and the Central Falls line, then
32 east along the Central Falls line to the Blackstone River, then north along the city boundary on
33 the Blackstone River to the Cumberland line, then west along the Pawtucket city boundary line to
34 I-95, then south along I-95 to Pine Street, then north on Pine Street to AMTRAK Right of Way,

1 then northwest along the AMTRAK Right of Way to Dexter Street, then north on Dexter Street to
2 the Central Falls line.

3 (9) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section the town council of the town of Little
4 Compton, after application, is authorized to exempt from the provisions of this section relating to
5 places of worship any class B license limited to malt and vinous beverages intended to be located
6 on Plat 30, Lot 33 of the town of Little Compton tax assessment map existing as of December 31,
7 2004.

8 (10) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses of the town of
9 Bristol shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this section
10 any proposed retailers' Class B license intended to be located on lots 3, 18, and 19 of tax
11 assessors plat 10 of the Bristol tax assessors map as of December 31, 2007.

12 (11) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section the town council of the town of
13 Smithfield, after application, is authorized to exempt from the provisions of this section, any class
14 B, C, or I license intended to be located on Plat 45, Lot 042 of the town of Smithfield, tax
15 assessment map existing as of December 31, 2007; provided, however, said exemption shall
16 apply only to any renewal of any class B, C, or I license issued for use at the said premises
17 located on plat 45, lot 042 as of December 31, 2011. In the event said license is not renewed, then
18 this exemption is hereby repealed in its entirety.

19 (12) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses of the city of
20 Providence shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this
21 section any proposed retailer Class B license intended to be located on plat 13, lots 31 and 32 of
22 the applicable city of Providence tax assessment map.

23 (13) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses of the town of
24 Tiverton shall, after the application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this
25 section a proposed retailer's Class BV license for a restaurant located on tax assessor's plat 181,
26 lot 1A.

27 (14) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses of the city of
28 Providence shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this
29 section any proposed retailer's Class B license intended to be located on tax assessor's plat 68, lot
30 732.

31 (15) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses in the city of
32 Providence shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this
33 section any proposed retailer's Class B license intended to be located on plat 105, lot 489, plat
34 105, lot 12 and plat 32, lot 232 of the applicable city of Providence tax assessment map.

1 (16) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section the city council of the city of Central
2 Falls, shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this section any
3 proposed retailer's Class B license intended to be located on plat 5, lot 188 of the applicable city
4 of Central Falls tax assessment map.

5 (17) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses of the town of
6 Portsmouth shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this
7 section any proposed retailer's Class B license intended to be located on plat 37, lot 69 of the
8 applicable town of Portsmouth tax assessment map.

9 (18) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses of the town of
10 North Providence shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this
11 section any proposed retailer's Class B license intended to be located on plat 23A, lot 98 of the
12 applicable town of North Providence tax assessment map.

13 (19) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses of the city of
14 Cranston shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this section
15 any proposed retailer's Class B license intended to be located on Plat 11, lot 3558 of the
16 applicable city of Cranston tax assessment map.

17 (20) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the town council of the town of
18 Smithfield, after application, is authorized to exempt from the provisions of this section, any
19 Class B or C license intended to be located on Plat 6, Lot 54 of the town of Smithfield tax
20 assessors map as of December 31, 2012.

21 (21) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses of the city of
22 Cranston shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this section
23 any proposed retailers class B license intended to be located on tax assessors plat 1, lot 2170 of
24 the applicable city of Cranston tax assessment map as of December 31, 2012.

25 (22) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses in the city of
26 Providence shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this
27 section any proposed retailer's Class B license intended to be located on tax assessor's plat 43, lot
28 211.

29 (23) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the board of licenses of the town of
30 North Providence shall, after application, have the authority to exempt from the provisions of this
31 section any proposed retailer's Class B license intended to be located on Plat 22A, Lot 336, of the
32 applicable town of North Providence tax assessment map.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -- RETAIL LICENSES

1 This act would limit the exemption from state law prohibiting Class B, C, or I licenses
2 where requisite objections from adjoining property owners exist or within the requisite proximity
3 of public, private, or parochial schools or places of worship in the area bounded by Wickenden
4 Street, Brook Street, Sheldon Street, and Benefit Street in Providence to licenses issued before
5 January 1, 2015.

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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