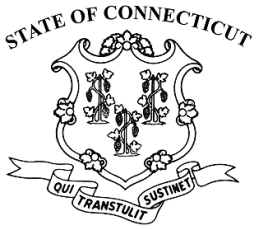

Substitute House Bill No. 6854

Public Act No. 25-51

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR REGULATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Subdivision (8) of section 30-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(8) "Case price" means the price of a container made of cardboard, wood or any other material and containing units of the same class and size of alcoholic liquor. A case of alcoholic liquor, other than beer, cocktails, cordials, prepared mixed drinks and wines, shall be in the quantity and number, or fewer, with the permission of the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, of bottles or units as follows: (A) Six three thousand seven hundred fifty milliliter bottles, (B) six three thousand milliliter bottles, (C) six two thousand milliliter bottles, (D) six one thousand eight hundred milliliter bottles, (E) six one thousand seven hundred fifty milliliter bottles, **[**(B)**]** (F) six one thousand **[**eight**]** five hundred milliliter bottles, **[**(C)**]** (G) six nine hundred forty-five milliliter bottles, (H) twelve one liter bottles, (I) twelve nine hundred milliliter bottles, (J) twelve seven hundred fifty milliliter bottles, **[**(D)**]** (K) twelve seven hundred twenty milliliter bottles, **[**(E)**]** (L) twelve seven

hundred **[**fifty**]** ten milliliter bottles, **[**(F)**]** (M) twelve **[**nine**]** seven hundred milliliter bottles, **[**(G)**]** (N) twelve **[**one liter**]** five hundred seventy milliliter bottles, **[**(H)**]** (O) twelve five hundred milliliter bottles, (P) twelve four hundred seventy-five milliliter bottles, (Q) twenty-four three hundred seventy-five milliliter bottles, **[**(I)**]** (R) twenty-four three hundred fifty-five milliliter bottles, (S) twenty-four three hundred fifty milliliter bottles, (T) twenty-four three hundred thirty-one milliliter bottles, (U) forty-eight two hundred fifty milliliter bottles, **[**(J)**]** (V) forty-eight two hundred milliliter bottles, (W) forty-eight one hundred eighty-seven milliliter bottles, (X) sixty one hundred milliliter bottles, or **[**(K)**]** (Y) one hundred twenty fifty milliliter bottles, except a case of fifty milliliter bottles may be in a quantity and number as originally configured, packaged and sold by the manufacturer or out-of-state shipper prior to shipment if the number of such bottles in such case is not greater than two hundred. The commissioner shall not authorize fewer quantities or numbers of bottles or units as specified in this subdivision for any one person or entity more than eight times in any calendar year. For the purposes of this subdivision, "class" has the same meaning as provided in 27 CFR 4.21 for wine, 27 CFR 5.22 for spirits and 27 CFR 7.24 for beer.

Sec. 2. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 30-14 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) Each permit shall be a purely personal privilege that is revocable in the discretion of the Department of Consumer Protection, and subject to appeal, as provided in section 30-55. Except as otherwise provided in the general statutes, including, but not limited to, subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 30-19f, as amended by this act, and sections 30-35, 30-37g and 30-37u, as amended by this act, each permit shall expire annually. No permit shall constitute property, be subject to attachment and execution or be alienable, except a permit shall descend to the estate

of a deceased permittee by the laws of testate or intestate succession. An airline permit issued under section 30-28a or a cafe permit issued under subsection (h) of section 30-22a shall be granted to the airline corporation or railway corporation and not to any person, and the corporation shall be the permittee.

(b) Any permit in this part, except a permit issued under subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 30-19f, as amended by this act, and sections 30-35, 30-37g and 30-37u, as amended by this act, may be issued for a continuous period of not more than six consecutive calendar months, at two-thirds of regular fees, but rebate of fees shall not be permitted for any unexpired portion of the term of a permit revoked by reason of a violation of any provision of this chapter.

Sec. 3. Subsections (c) and (d) of section 30-16 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(c) (1) A manufacturer permit for a farm winery shall be in all respects the same as a manufacturer permit, except that the scope of operations of the holder shall be limited to wine and brandies distilled from grape products or other fruit products, including grappa and eau-de-vie. As used in this section, "farm winery" means any place or premises that is located on a farm in the state in which wine is manufactured and sold.

(2) Such permit shall, at the single principal premises of the farm winery, authorize: (A) The sale in bulk by the holder thereof from the premises where the products are manufactured pursuant to such permit; (B) as to a manufacturer who produces one hundred thousand gallons of wine or less per year, the sale and shipment by the holder thereof to a retailer of wine manufactured by the farm winery permittee in the original sealed containers of not more than fifteen gallons per container; (C) the sale and shipment by the holder thereof of wine manufactured by the farm winery permittee to persons outside the state;

(D) the offering and tasting of free samples of such wine or brandy, dispensed out of bottles or containers having capacities of not more than two gallons per bottle or container, to visitors and prospective retail customers for consumption on the premises of the farm winery permittee; (E) the sale at retail from the premises of sealed bottles or other sealed containers of such wine or brandy for consumption off the premises; (F) the sale at retail from the premises of wine or brandy by the glass and bottle to visitors on the premises of the farm winery permittee for consumption on the premises; and (G) subject to the provisions of subdivision (3) of this subsection, the sale and delivery or shipment of wine manufactured by the permittee directly to a consumer in this state. Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraphs (D), (E) and (F) of this subdivision, a town may, by ordinance or zoning regulation, prohibit any such offering, tasting or selling at retail at premises within such town for which a manufacturer permit for a farm winery has been issued.

(3) A permittee, when selling and shipping wine directly to a consumer in this state, shall: (A) Ensure that the shipping labels on all containers of wine shipped directly to a consumer in this state conspicuously state the following: "CONTAINS ALCOHOL— SIGNATURE OF A PERSON AGE 21 OR OLDER REQUIRED FOR DELIVERY"; (B) obtain the signature of a person age twenty-one or older at the address prior to delivery, after requiring the signer to demonstrate that such signer is age twenty-one or older by providing a valid motor vehicle operator's license or a valid identity card described in section 1-1h; (C) not ship more than five gallons of wine in any two-month period to any person in this state; (D) pay, to the Department of Revenue Services, all sales taxes and alcoholic beverage taxes due under chapters 219 and 220 on sales of wine to consumers in this state, and file, with said department, all sales tax returns and alcoholic beverage tax returns relating to such sales; (E) report to the Department of Consumer Protection a separate and complete record of all sales and shipments to

consumers in the state, on a ledger sheet or similar form which readily presents a chronological account of such permittee's dealings with each such consumer; (F) not ship to any address in the state where the sale of alcoholic liquor is prohibited by local option pursuant to section 30-9; and (G) hold an in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit pursuant to section 30-19f, as amended by this act, or make any such shipment through the use of a person who holds such an in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit.

(4) No licensed farm winery may sell any such wine or brandy not manufactured by such winery, except a licensed farm winery may sell from the premises: (A) Wine manufactured by another farm winery located in this state; and (B) brandy manufactured from fruit harvested in this state and distilled off the premises in this state.

(5) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, the farm winery permittee shall grow on the premises of the farm winery or on property under the same ownership and control of said permittee or leased by the backer of a farm winery permit or by said permittee within the farm winery's principal state an average crop of fruit equal to not less than twenty-five per cent of the fruit used in the manufacture of the farm winery permittee's wine. An average crop shall be defined each year as the average yield of the farm winery permittee's two largest annual crops out of the preceding five years, except that during the first seven years from the date of issuance of a farm winery permit, an average crop shall be defined as three tons of grapes for each acre of vineyard farmed by the farm winery permittee. Such seven-year period shall not begin anew if the property for which the farm winery permit is held is transferred or sold during such seven-year period. In the event the farm winery consists of more than one property, the aggregate acreage of the farm winery shall not be less than five acres.

(B) If a farm winery permittee sustains a significant loss of the farm winery permittee's crop of fruit, such farm winery permittee shall, not

later than December thirty-first of the year in which such farm winery permittee sustains such significant loss, certify to the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, that such farm winery permittee has sustained such significant loss. If the commissioner determines, in the commissioner's discretion, that such farm winery permittee sustained such significant loss through no fault of such farm winery permittee, such farm winery permittee's lost crop of fruit shall, for the year in which such farm winery permittee sustained such significant loss, be deemed to satisfy the average crop requirement established in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision. For the purposes of this subparagraph, the commissioner shall, in the commissioner's discretion, determine whether a qualitative or quantitative reduction in crop yield suffered by a farm winery permittee constitutes a significant loss.

(6) A holder of a manufacturer permit for a farm winery, when advertising or offering wine for direct shipment to a consumer in this state via the Internet or any other on-line computer network, shall clearly and conspicuously state such liquor permit number in its advertising.

(7) A holder of a manufacturer permit for a farm winery may sell and offer free tastings of wine manufactured from such winery at a farmers' market, as defined in section 22-6r, that is operated as a nonprofit enterprise or association, provided such farmers' market invites such holder to sell wine at such farmers' market and such holder has a farmers' market wine sales permit issued by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection in accordance with the provisions of section 30-37o.

(8) A holder of a manufacturer permit for a farm winery may, with the prior approval of the Department of Consumer Protection, sell wine, brandies, grappa and eau-de-vie manufactured by such farm winery permittee at not more than three retail outlets in addition to such farm

winery permittee's permit premises, provided (A) each such retail outlet is located on land that is leased or owned by the backer of the farm winery permit and such farm winery permittee utilizes such land to grow fruit and produce alcoholic beverages manufactured exclusively by the farm winery, and (B) no such retail outlet is located within a grocery store, as defined in section 30-20, as amended by this act, or any other retail outlet unless otherwise permitted under the general statutes.

(9) The annual fee for a manufacturer permit for a farm winery shall be three hundred dollars.

(d) (1) A manufacturer permit for wine, cider and mead shall allow the manufacture of wine, cider not exceeding six per cent alcohol by volume, apple wine not exceeding fifteen per cent alcohol by volume, apple brandy, eau-de-vie and mead and the storage, bottling and wholesale distribution and sale of wine, cider not exceeding six per cent alcohol by volume, apple wine not exceeding fifteen per cent alcohol by volume, apple brandy, eau-de-vie and mead manufactured or bottled by the permit holder to permittees in this state and without the state as may be permitted by law; but no such permit shall be granted unless the place or the plan of the place of manufacture has received the approval of the Department of Consumer Protection.

(2) Such permit shall, at a single principal premises, authorize: (A) The sale in bulk by the holder thereof from the premises where the products are manufactured pursuant to such permit; (B) as to a manufacturer who produces one hundred thousand gallons or less per year of products manufactured pursuant to such permit, the sale and shipment by the holder thereof to a retailer of such products manufactured by the permittee in the original sealed containers of not more than fifteen gallons per container; (C) the sale and shipment by the holder thereof of such products manufactured by the permittee to persons outside the state; (D) the offering and tasting of free samples of such products, dispensed out of bottles or containers having capacities

of not more than two gallons per bottle or container, to visitors and prospective retail customers for consumption on the premises of the permittee; (E) subject to the provisions of subsection (d) of section 30-91, the sale at retail from the premises of sealed bottles or other sealed containers of such products for consumption off the premises; (F) the sale at retail from the premises of such products by the glass and bottle to visitors on the premises of the permittee for consumption on the premises; and (G) subject to the provisions of subdivision (3) of this subsection, the sale and delivery or shipment of such products manufactured by the permittee directly to a consumer in this state. Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraphs (D), (E) and (F) of this subdivision, a town may, by ordinance or zoning regulation, prohibit any such offering, tasting or selling at retail at premises within such town for which a manufacturer permit has been issued.

(3) A permittee, when selling and shipping a product produced pursuant to this permit, directly to a consumer in this state, shall: (A) Ensure that the shipping labels on all containers of such products shipped directly to a consumer in this state conspicuously state the following: "CONTAINS ALCOHOL—SIGNATURE OF A PERSON AGE 21 OR OLDER REQUIRED FOR DELIVERY"; (B) obtain the signature of a person age twenty-one or older at the address prior to delivery, after requiring the signer to demonstrate that such signer is age twenty-one or older by providing a valid motor vehicle operator's license or a valid identity card described in section 1-1h; (C) not ship more than five gallons of product produced pursuant to this permit in any two-month period to any person in this state; (D) pay, to the Department of Revenue Services, all sales taxes and alcoholic beverage taxes due under chapters 219 and 220 on sales of products produced pursuant to this permit to consumers in this state, and file, with said department, all sales tax returns and alcoholic beverage tax returns relating to such sales; (E) report to the Department of Consumer Protection a separate and complete record of all sales and shipments to

consumers in the state, on a ledger sheet or similar form which readily presents a chronological account of such permittee's dealings with each such consumer; (F) not ship to any address in the state where the sale of alcoholic liquor is prohibited by local option pursuant to section 30-9; and (G) hold an in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit pursuant to section 30-19f, as amended by this act, or make any such shipment through the use of a person who holds such an in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit.

(4) No holder of a manufacturer permit for wine, cider and mead may sell any product not manufactured by such permit holder, except such permittee may sell from the premises: (A) Wine, cider not exceeding six per cent alcohol by volume, apple wine not exceeding fifteen per cent alcohol by volume, apple brandy and eau-de-vie and mead manufactured by another such permit holder located in this state; and (B) brandy manufactured from fruit harvested in this state and distilled off the premises in this state.

(5) A holder of a manufacturer permit for wine, cider and mead, when advertising or offering products for direct shipment to a consumer in this state via the Internet or any other on-line computer network, shall clearly and conspicuously state such liquor permit number in its advertising.

(6) A holder of a manufacturer permit for wine, cider and mead may sell and offer free tastings of products produced pursuant to such permit that are manufactured by such permit holder at a farmers' market, as defined in section 22-6r, that is operated as a nonprofit enterprise or association, provided such farmers' market invites such holder to sell such products at such farmers' market and such holder has a farmers' market sales permit issued by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection in accordance with the provisions of section 30-37o.

(7) The annual fee for a manufacturer permit for wine, cider and

mead shall be two hundred dollars.

Sec. 4. Subsection (d) of section 30-16b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(d) If a permittee is delivering alcoholic liquor and food, such delivery shall be made only by a direct employee of the permittee and not by a third-party vendor or entity, unless such third-party vendor or entity holds an in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit issued under section 30-19f, as amended by this act.

Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 30-16c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) From June 4, 2021, until three years after June 4, 2021, the holder of any manufacturer permit issued **[**pursuant to**]** under section 30-16, as amended by this act, may deliver alcoholic liquor manufactured by such permittee, provided such delivery is made only by a direct employee of the permittee and not by a third-party vendor or entity, unless such third-party vendor or entity holds an in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit issued under section 30-19f, as amended by this act. Any alcoholic liquor delivered by a permittee under this section shall comply with all applicable limits of section 30-16, as amended by this act, allowing the permittee to sell at retail, from the permittee's premises, sealed bottles or other sealed containers of alcoholic liquor manufactured by the permittee on the premises for off-premises consumption.

Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 30-18 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(b) Subject to the provisions of this subsection, an out-of-state

shipper's permit for alcoholic liquor other than beer shall allow the sale and delivery or shipment of wine manufactured by the permittee on the permitted premises directly to a consumer in this state. Such permittee, when selling and shipping wine directly to a consumer in this state, shall: (1) Ensure that the shipping labels on all containers of wine shipped directly to a consumer in this state conspicuously state the following: "CONTAINS ALCOHOL—SIGNATURE OF A PERSON AGE 21 OR OLDER REQUIRED FOR DELIVERY"; (2) obtain the signature of a person age twenty-one or older at the address prior to delivery, after requiring the signer to demonstrate that he or she is age twenty-one or older by providing a valid motor vehicle operator's license or a valid identity card described in section 1-1h; (3) not ship more than five gallons of wine in any two-month period to any person in this state and not ship any wine until such permittee is registered, with respect to the permittee's sales of wine to consumers in this state, for purposes of the taxes imposed under chapters 219 and 220, with the Department of Revenue Services; (4) pay, to the Department of Revenue Services, all sales taxes and alcoholic beverage taxes due under chapters 219 and 220 on sales of wine to consumers in this state, and file, with said department, all sales tax returns and alcoholic beverage tax returns relating to such sales, with the amount of such taxes to be calculated as if the sale were in this state at the location where delivery is made; (5) report to the Department of Consumer Protection a separate and complete record of all sales and shipments to consumers in the state, on a ledger sheet or similar form which readily presents a chronological account of such permittee's dealings with each such consumer; (6) permit the Department of Consumer Protection and Department of Revenue Services, separately or jointly, to perform an audit of the permittee's records upon request; (7) not ship to any address in the state where the sale of alcoholic liquor is prohibited by local option pursuant to section 30-9; (8) hold an in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit **[**pursuant to**]** under section 30-19f, as amended by this act, or make any such shipment through the use of a person who holds such an in-state

[transporter's**]** transporter permit; and (9) execute a written consent to the jurisdiction of this state, its agencies and instrumentalities and the courts of this state concerning the enforcement of this section and any related laws, rules, or regulations, including, but not limited to, tax laws, rules or regulations.

Sec. 7. Subsection (b) of section 30-18a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(b) Subject to the provisions of this subsection, the permits under subsection (a) of this section shall allow the sale and delivery or shipment of wine manufactured or sold by the permittee directly to a consumer in this state. Such permittee, when selling and shipping wine directly to a consumer in this state, shall: (1) Ensure that the shipping labels on all containers of wine shipped directly to a consumer in this state conspicuously state the following: "CONTAINS ALCOHOL—SIGNATURE OF A PERSON AGE 21 OR OLDER REQUIRED FOR DELIVERY"; (2) obtain the signature of a person age twenty-one or older at the address prior to delivery, after requiring the signer to demonstrate that he or she is age twenty-one or older by providing a valid motor vehicle operator's license or a valid identity card described in section 1-1h; (3) not ship more than five gallons of wine in any two-month period to any person in this state and not ship any wine until such permittee is registered, with respect to the permittee's sales of wine to consumers in this state, for purposes of the taxes imposed under chapters 219 and 220, with the Department of Revenue Services; (4) pay, to the Department of Revenue Services, all sales taxes and alcoholic beverage taxes due under chapters 219 and 220 on sales of wine to consumers in this state, and file, with said department, all sales tax returns and alcoholic beverage tax returns relating to such sales, with the amount of such taxes to be calculated as if the sale were in this state at the location where delivery is made; (5) report to the Department of Consumer Protection a separate

and complete record of all sales and shipments to consumers in the state, on a ledger sheet or similar form which readily presents a chronological account of such permittee's dealings with each such consumer; (6) permit the Department of Consumer Protection and Department of Revenue Services, separately or jointly, to perform an audit of the permittee's records upon request; (7) not ship to any address in the state where the sale of alcoholic liquor is prohibited by local option pursuant to section 30-9; (8) hold an in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit **[**pursuant to**]** under section 30-19f, as amended by this act, or make any such shipment through the use of a person who holds such an in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit; (9) execute a written consent to the jurisdiction of this state, its agencies and instrumentalities and the courts of this state concerning the enforcement of this section and any related laws, rules, or regulations, including tax laws, rules or regulations; and (10) comply with the provisions of section 30-68m regarding the prohibition of selling wine below cost.

Sec. 8. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 30-19f of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) (1) An annual in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit for alcoholic liquor shall allow the commercial transportation of any alcoholic liquor and, with the approval of the Department of Consumer Protection, the provision or sale of alcoholic liquor for consumption in a boat engaged in the transportation of passengers for hire or a motor vehicle in livery service, as permitted by law. One permit shall cover all such boats or vehicles that are under common control, direction, management or ownership. When applying for such approval, in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, the owner of any such boat or vehicle in which the sale or consumption of alcoholic liquor will be available shall specifically identify to the department each such boat or vehicle. The **[**annual**]** fee for an annual in-

state **[**transporter's**]** transporter liquor permit shall be one thousand two hundred fifty dollars for the first boat or vehicle and an additional annual fee of two hundred dollars for each additional boat or vehicle.

(2) A daily in-state transporter permit for alcoholic liquor shall allow the permittee to engage in the commercial transportation of any alcoholic liquor and, with the approval of the department, the provision or sale of alcoholic liquor for consumption in a boat engaged in the transportation of passengers for hire or a motor vehicle in livery service, as permitted by law. One permit shall cover all such boats or vehicles that are under common control, direction, management or ownership. When applying for such approval, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, the owner of any such boat or vehicle in which the sale or consumption of alcoholic liquor will be available shall specifically identify to the department each such boat or vehicle. The fee for a daily in-state transporter liquor permit shall be one hundred fifty dollars for each boat or vehicle to be used in the state during the calendar day as requested on such application. Not more than eight daily in-state transporter liquor permits shall be issued to any one backer pursuant to this section per calendar year. During the calendar year in which a daily in-state transporter liquor permit is issued to a permittee pursuant to this subdivision, the permittee may apply to the department, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, to convert such daily in-state transporter liquor permit to an annual in-state transporter liquor permit. The effective date of such annual in-state transporter liquor permit shall be the effective date of the first daily in-state transporter liquor permit that was issued to such applicant during such calendar year. The fee for such annual in-state transporter liquor permit shall be the fee established in subdivision (1) of this subsection less the total fees such applicant paid for daily in-state transporter liquor permits during such calendar year, except no rebate shall be issued to such applicant if the total fees such applicant paid for daily in-state transporter liquor permits during such calendar year exceeds the fee

established in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(b) No person or business entity, except the holder of an out-of-state shipper's permit issued under section 30-18, as amended by this act, or 30-19, a manufacturer's permit issued under section 30-16, as amended by this act, other than a manufacturer permit for a farm winery or a manufacturer permit for wine, cider and mead, or a wholesaler's permit issued under section 30-17, shall transport any alcoholic beverages imported into this state unless: (1) Such person or business entity holds an in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit issued under this section; (2) the tax imposed on such alcoholic liquor under section 12-435 has been paid; and (3) if applicable, the tax imposed on the sale of such alcoholic liquor under chapter 219 has been paid.

Sec. 9. Section 30-20 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) For the purposes of this section, "grocery store" (1) means any store that (A) is commonly known as a delicatessen, food store, grocery store or supermarket, and (B) **[**is primarily engaged in the retail sale of**]** derives more than fifty per cent of such store's retail sales from any combination of dairy products, eggs and poultry, fruits and vegetables, meat, seafood, bakery products, various canned goods and dry goods such as coffee, flour, spices, sugar and tea, whether packaged or in bulk, **[**regardless of whether**]** except no such store **[**sells**]** shall be required to sell fresh fruits and vegetables or **[**fresh, prepared or smoked fish**]** poultry, meat **[**and poultry**]** or seafood, and (2) does not include any store that is primarily engaged in the retail sale of one category of food items such as bakery products, **[**candy, nuts and**]** candies, confectioneries, dairy products, eggs, **[**and poultry,**]** fruits and vegetables, meat, poultry or seafood.

(b) (1) A package store permit shall allow the retail sale of alcoholic liquor in sealed bottles or containers not to be consumed on the permit

premises. The holder of a package store permit may, in accordance with regulations adopted by the Department of Consumer Protection pursuant to the provisions of chapter 54, (A) offer free samples of alcoholic liquor for tasting on the permit premises, (B) conduct fee-based wine or spirits education and tasting classes and demonstrations, and (C) conduct tastings or demonstrations provided by a permittee or backer of the package store for a nominal charge to charitable nonprofit organizations. Any offering, tasting, wine or spirits education and tasting class or demonstration held on permit premises shall be conducted only during the hours the package store may sell alcoholic liquor under section 30-91, as amended by this act. No tasting of wine on the permit premises shall be offered from more than ten uncorked bottles at any one time. No holder, backer or permittee shall offer or provide to any customer (i) more than one-half ounce of any single spirit for sampling or tasting per day, or (ii) a total of more than two ounces of spirits for sampling or tasting per day. No tasting shall be provided below cost.

(2) No store operating under a package store permit shall sell any commodity other than alcoholic liquor except, notwithstanding any other provision of law, such store may sell (A) cigarettes and cigars, (B) publications, (C) bar utensils, including, but not limited to, corkscrews, beverage strainers, stirrers or other similar items used to consume, or related to the consumption of, alcoholic liquor, (D) gift packages of alcoholic liquor shipped into the state by a manufacturer or out-of-state shipper, which gift packages may include nonalcoholic items, other than food or tobacco products, if the dollar value of the nonalcoholic items in such gift package does not exceed the dollar value of the alcoholic items in such gift package, (E) complementary fresh fruits used in the preparation of mixed alcoholic beverages, (F) cheese, crackers or both, (G) olives, (H) nonalcoholic beverages, (I) concentrates used in the preparation of mixed alcoholic beverages, (J) beer and wine-making kits and products related to such kits, (K) ice in any form, (L) articles of

clothing imprinted with advertising related to the alcoholic liquor industry, (M) gift baskets or other containers of alcoholic liquor, (N) multiple packages of alcoholic liquors, provided in all such cases the minimum retail selling price for such alcoholic liquor shall apply, (O) lottery tickets authorized by the Department of Consumer Protection, if licensed as an agent to sell such tickets by the department, (P) devices and related accessories designed primarily for accessing and extracting a beverage containing alcohol from prepackaged containers, including, but not limited to, pods, pouches or similar containers, but excluding devices, including, but not limited to, household blenders, that are not designed primarily for such purposes, (Q) alcohol-infused confections containing not more than one-half of one per cent of alcohol by weight and which the commissioner has approved for sale under section 21a-101, (R) gift baskets containing only containers of alcoholic liquor and commodities authorized for sale under subparagraphs (A) to (Q), inclusive, of this subdivision, (S) infused beverages, as defined in section 21a-425, provided (i) the package store permittee (I) paid to the department the annual fee for an infused beverage endorsement pursuant to this subdivision, and (II) purchased such infused beverages from the holder of a wholesaler permit or a wholesaler permit for beer issued under section 30-17, and (ii) such sales are made in accordance with the provisions of section 21a-425b, and (T) legacy infused beverages, as defined in section 21a-425d, provided all such sales shall be made (i) during the period beginning on July 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2024, and (ii) in accordance with (I) a waiver issued pursuant to section 21a-425d, and (II) the requirements set forth in section 21a-425d. A package store permit shall also allow the taking and transmitting of orders for delivery of such merchandise in other states. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a package store permit shall allow the participation in any lottery ticket promotion or giveaway sponsored by the department. The annual fee for a package store permit shall be five hundred thirty-five dollars. The annual fee for an infused beverage endorsement to a package store permit shall be five hundred

dollars, and shall be deposited by the department in the consumer protection enforcement account established in section 21a-8a.

(c) A grocery store beer permit may be granted to any grocery store and shall allow the retail sale of beer in standard size containers not to be consumed on the permit premises. The holder of a grocery store beer permit shall post, in a prominent location adjacent to the beer display, the retail price for each brand of beer and such retail price shall include all applicable federal and state taxes, including, but not limited to, the applicable state sales taxes. The annual fee for a grocery store beer permit shall be one hundred seventy dollars, or, for a grocery store that has annual sales of food and grocery items of at least two million dollars, one thousand five hundred dollars.

(d) The holder of a package store permit or a grocery store beer permit issued under this section may allow curbside pick-up of previously purchased alcoholic liquor by (1) the consumer who purchased such alcoholic liquor, or (2) the holder of an in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit issued under section 30-19f, as amended by this act, or such holder's agent. Such curbside pick-up shall be limited to the space immediately adjacent to, or in a parking lot abutting, the permit premises. The holder of such package store permit or grocery store beer permit may allow such curbside pick-up only during the hours the package store or grocery store is allowed to sell alcoholic liquor under subsection (d) of section 30-91 unless a more restrictive municipal ordinance limits such curbside pick-up hours.

Sec. 10. Section 30-22b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "Catering establishment" means any premises that (A) has an adequate, suitable and sanitary kitchen, dining room and facilities to

provide hot meals in compliance with the regulations of the local department of health, (B) has no sleeping accommodations for the public, (C) is owned or operated by any person who, or business entity that, (i) regularly furnishes for hire on such premises one or more ballrooms, reception rooms, dining rooms, banquet halls or similar places of assemblage for a particular function, occasion or event, or (ii) furnishes provisions and services for consumption or use at any function, occasion or event described in subparagraph (C)(i) of this subdivision, and (D) employs an adequate number of employees on such premises at the time of any function, occasion or event described in subparagraph (C)(i) of this subdivision; and

(2) "Qualified managed residential community" means a managed residential community, as defined in section 19a-693, that (A) has an adequate, suitable and sanitary kitchen, dining room and facilities to provide hot meals in compliance with the regulations of the local department of health, (B) provides daily meals in the dining room described in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, and (C) exclusively serves meals to (i) residents of the managed residential community and their guests, and (ii) employees of the managed residential community.

[(a)**]** (b) (1) A restaurant permit for a catering establishment or qualified managed residential community shall allow a catering establishment or a qualified managed residential community to serve alcoholic liquor at a function, occasion or event on the premises of **[**a**]** the catering establishment or qualified managed residential community, and shall allow a qualified managed residential community to serve alcoholic liquor at the daily scheduled meals on the premises of the qualified managed residential community, provided **[**(1)**]** (A) alcoholic liquor shall be sold only to persons invited to and attending such **[**a**]** function, occasion, **[**or**]** event or meals, and **[**(2)**]** (B) alcoholic liquor shall be sold only during the specific hours such function, occasion or event is, or meals are, scheduled on **[**the**]** such premises. The permittee shall

comply with the regulations of the local department of health.

(2) The department may waive the requirements of **[**subdivisions (1) and (2)**]** subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection (A) for not more than sixteen functions, occasions or events of a catering establishment annually, provided such establishment makes written application to the department at least ten days prior to the scheduled date of the function, occasion or event for which a waiver is sought, and (B) permanently for a qualified managed residential community, provided such community offers alcoholic beverages exclusively with daily scheduled meals on the premises of such community.

(3) The annual fee for a restaurant permit for a catering establishment or qualified managed residential community shall be one thousand four hundred fifty dollars.

[(b)**]** (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require that any catering establishment operated under a restaurant permit for a catering establishment be open for business to the public at any time other than when a particular function, occasion or event is scheduled on such premises.

[(c)**]** (d) No organization eligible for a club or nonprofit club permit, or other entity established primarily to serve its members, shall be eligible for a restaurant permit for a catering establishment.

[(d) "Catering establishment" means any premises that (1) has an adequate, suitable and sanitary kitchen, dining room and facilities to provide hot meals, (2) has no sleeping accommodations for the public, (3) is owned or operated by any person who, or business entity that, (A) regularly furnishes for hire on such premises one or more ballrooms, reception rooms, dining rooms, banquet halls or similar places of assemblage for a particular function, occasion or event, or (B) furnishes provisions and services for consumption or use at any function, occasion

or event described in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, and (4) employs an adequate number of employees on such premises at the time of any function, occasion or event described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of this subsection.**]**

Sec. 11. Section 30-33 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

A concession permit shall allow the sale and consumption of beer**,** **[**or**]** wine or a canned beverage containing spirits, provided such canned beverage is combined with other nonalcoholic ingredients that are premixed and packaged in original containers by the manufacturer and consist of not more than six per cent alcohol by volume that is not mixed or adulterated by the permittee, on the premises of any fair grounds, ball park, amusement park, indoor-outdoor amphitheater, outdoor amphitheater contiguous to and under the same ownership as an amusement park, public golf course or sports arena provided no sales of alcoholic liquor shall occur within one hour of the scheduled end of a performance at an indoor-outdoor amphitheater constructed to seat not less than fifteen thousand people. A concession permit shall also allow the sale and consumption of alcohol or spirits in all enclosed nonseating areas within an indoor-outdoor amphitheater. Such areas shall be enclosed by a fence or wall not less than thirty inches high and separate from each other. No concession permittee, backer, employee or agent of such permittee shall sell, offer or deliver more than two drinks of alcoholic liquor at any one time to any person for such person's own consumption. Such permit shall be issued in the discretion of the Department of Consumer Protection and shall be effective only in accordance with a schedule of hours and days determined by the department for each such permit within the limitation of hours and days fixed by law. As used in this section, "public golf course" means a golf course of not less than nine holes and a course length of not less than twenty-seven hundred fifty yards. The fee for a concession permit shall

be as follows: For a period of one year, three hundred dollars; for a period of six months, two hundred dollars; and for a period of one day, fifty dollars.

Sec. 12. Subsections (c) to (g), inclusive, of section 30-37u of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(c) To obtain a temporary auction permit under this section, an auctioneer shall submit an application to the department, in a form and manner prescribed by the department, at least sixty days before the first day of the auction to be conducted under such permit. The auctioneer applicant shall serve as the backer of such permit. Each such permit shall be valid for one auction and shall be effective for a period not to exceed **[**three consecutive**]** a total of twelve days in **[**duration**]** any calendar year. The department may issue not more than **[**four**]** twelve temporary auction permits to an auctioneer in any calendar year. The provisions of subdivision (3) of subsection (b) and subsection (c) of section 30-39, as amended by this act, shall not apply to temporary auction permits issued under this section. The fee for a temporary auction permit shall be one hundred seventy-five dollars per day.

(d) The auctioneer shall obtain all beer, spirits and wine that are the subject of an auction conducted under a temporary auction permit issued under this section from one or more individual collectors, holders of package store permits issued under section 30-20, as amended by this act, or holders of cancelled restaurant permits issued under section 30-22, cancelled cafe permits issued under section 30-22a or cancelled cafe permits for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-22g. The auctioneer shall only accept beer, spirits or wine that (1) was lawfully acquired by (A) an individual collector, or (B) the holder of a package store permit issued under section 30-20, as amended by this act, cancelled restaurant permit issued under section 30-22, cancelled cafe permit issued under section 30-22a or cancelled cafe permit for wine,

beer and cider issued under section 30-22g who purchased such beer, spirits or wine from the holder of a wholesaler permit issued under section 30-17, and (2) bears an intact seal from the manufacturer of such beer, spirits or wine. An individual collector may sell or consign such beer, spirits or wine to the auctioneer. The holder of a package store permit issued under section 30-20, as amended by this act, may sell or consign such beer, spirits or wine to the auctioneer, provided the starting bid for such beer, spirits or wine is in an amount that is not less than the amount required under section 30-68m. The holder of a cancelled restaurant permit issued under section 30-22, cancelled cafe permit issued under section 30-22a or cancelled cafe permit for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-22g may sell or consign such beer, spirits or wine to the auctioneer. All unsold consigned beer, spirits or wine shall be returned to the individual collector, holder of the package store permit issued under section 30-20, as amended by this act, holder of the cancelled restaurant permit issued under section 30-22, holder of the cancelled cafe permit issued under section 30-22a or holder of the cancelled cafe permit for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-22g not later than ten days after the final day of such auction.

(e) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, all beer, spirits and wine sold at an auction conducted pursuant to a temporary auction permit issued under this section is exempt from the requirements of sections 30-63 and 30-68m. Except for unsold consigned beer, spirits or wine that an auctioneer returns to the holder of a package store permit issued under section 30-20, as amended by this act, no such beer, spirits or wine may be resold, offered for sale or otherwise used on the permit premises of any other permittee operating, or the backer of any other permit issued, under this chapter.

(f) A holder of a temporary auction permit issued under this section may offer free samples of any beer, spirits or wine to be sold at auction for tasting, provided the holder sends a notice to the department, at least

thirty days before the first day of such auction and in a form and manner prescribed by the department, disclosing that the holder intends to offer such free samples for tasting. Any tasting shall be conducted only during the hours in which the holder of a temporary auction permit issued under this section is authorized to sell alcoholic liquor under subsection (d) of section 30-91. No tasting shall be offered to any minor or intoxicated person, or from more than ten uncorked or open cans or bottles at any one time. Any town or municipality may, by ordinance or zoning regulation, prohibit the offering of such free samples by the holders of temporary auction permits issued under this section at events or functions held in such town or municipality.

(g) A temporary auction permit issued under this section shall allow for the delivery and shipment of any beer, spirits or wine sold at an auction conducted pursuant to such permit directly to the consumer who purchased such beer, spirits or wine. Any shipment to a consumer outside of this state is subject to all applicable laws of the jurisdiction in which such consumer is located. When shipping such beer, spirits or wine directly to a consumer in this state, the holder of such permit shall: (1) Ensure that the shipping label on each container containing such beer, spirits or wine states the following: "CONTAINS ALCOHOL—SIGNATURE OF A PERSON AGE 21 OR OLDER REQUIRED FOR DELIVERY"; (2) obtain the signature of a person who is at least twenty-one years of age at the delivery address prior to delivery, after requiring such person to demonstrate that such person is at least twenty-one years of age by providing a valid motor vehicle operator's license or a valid identity card described in section 1-1h; (3) not ship such beer, spirits or wine to any address in this state where the sale of alcoholic liquor is prohibited by local option pursuant to section 30-9; and (4) make any such shipment through the use of a person who holds an in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit issued under section 30-19f, as amended by this act.

Sec. 13. Section 30-39 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) For the purposes of this section, the "filing date" of an application means the date upon which the department, after approving the application for processing, mails or otherwise delivers to the applicant a placard containing such date.

(b) (1) Any person desiring a liquor permit or a renewal of such a permit shall make an affirmed application therefor to the Department of Consumer Protection, upon forms to be furnished by the department, showing the name and address of the applicant and of the applicant's backer, if any, the location of the club or place of business which is to be operated under such permit and a financial statement setting forth all elements and details of any business transactions connected with the application. Such application shall include a detailed description of the type of live entertainment that is to be provided. A club or place of business shall be exempt from providing such detailed description if the club or place of business (A) was issued a liquor permit prior to October 1, 1993, and (B) has not altered the type of entertainment provided. The application shall also indicate any crimes of which the applicant or the applicant's backer may have been convicted. **[**Applicants shall submit**]** The department shall not review an initial application until the applicant has submitted all documents **[**, only upon initial application, sufficient**]** necessary to establish that state and local building, fire and zoning requirements and local ordinances concerning hours and days of sale will be met, except that local building and zoning requirements and local ordinances concerning hours and days of sale shall not apply to a cafe permit issued under subsection (d) or (h) of section 30-22a. If the applicant does not submit all such documents within the thirty-day period beginning on the date on which the department receives the initial application, or if such documents are not fully executed by the appropriate authorities, such initial application shall be deemed

withdrawn and invalid. The State Fire Marshal or the marshal's certified designee shall be responsible for approving compliance with the State Fire Code at Bradley International Airport. Any person desiring a permit provided for in section 30-33b shall file a copy of such person's license with such application if such license was issued by the Department of Consumer Protection. The department may, at its discretion, conduct an investigation to determine (i) whether a permit shall be issued to an applicant or the applicant's backer, or (ii) the suitability of the proposed permit premises. Completion of an inspection pursuant to subsection (f) of section 29-305 shall not be deemed to constitute a precondition to renewal of a permit that is subject to subsection (f) of section 29-305.

(2) The applicant shall pay to the department a nonrefundable application fee, which fee shall be in addition to the fees prescribed in this chapter for the permit sought. An application fee shall not be charged for an application to renew a permit. The application fee shall be in the amount of ten dollars for the filing of each application for a permit by a nonprofit golf tournament permit under section 30-37g or a temporary liquor permit for a noncommercial entity under section 30-35; and in the amount of one hundred dollars for the filing of an initial application for all other permits. Any permit issued shall be valid only for the purposes and activities described in the application.

(3) **[**The applicant, immediately after filing an application, shall give notice thereof, with the name and residence of the permittee, the type of permit applied for and the location of the place of business for which such permit is to be issued and the type of live entertainment to be provided, all in a form prescribed by the department, by publishing the same in a newspaper having a circulation in the town in which the place of business to be operated under such permit is to be located, at least once a week for two successive weeks, the first publication to be not more than seven days after the filing date of the application and the last

publication not more than fourteen days after the filing date of the application.**]** The applicant shall affix, and maintain in a legible condition upon the outer door of the building wherein such place of business is to be located and clearly visible from the public highway, the placard provided by the department, not later than the day following the receipt of the placard by the applicant. If such outer door of such premises is so far from the public highway that such placard is not clearly visible as provided, the department shall direct a suitable method to notify the public of such application. When an application is filed for any type of permit for a building that has not been constructed, such applicant shall erect and maintain in a legible condition a sign not less than six feet by four feet upon the site where such place of business is to be located, instead of such placard upon the outer door of the building. The sign shall set forth the type of permit applied for and the name of the proposed permittee, shall be clearly visible from the public highway and shall be so erected not later than the day following the receipt of the placard. Such applicant shall make a return to the department, under oath, of compliance with the foregoing requirements, in such form as the department may determine, but the department may require any additional proof of such compliance. Upon receipt of evidence of such compliance, the department may hold a hearing as to the suitability of the proposed location. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to applications for (A) airline permits issued under section 30-28a, (B) temporary liquor permits for noncommercial entities issued under section 30-35, (C) concession permits issued under section 30-33, as amended by this act, (D) military permits issued under section 30-34, (E) cafe permits issued under subsection (h) of section 30-22a, (F) warehouse permits issued under section 30-32, (G) broker's permits issued under section 30-30, (H) out-of-state shipper's permits for alcoholic liquor issued under section 30-18, as amended by this act, (I) out-of-state shipper's permits for beer issued under section 30-19, (J) coliseum permits issued under section 30-33a, (K) nonprofit golf tournament permits issued under section 30-37g,

(L) Connecticut craft cafe permits issued under section 30-22d to permittees who held a manufacturer permit for a brew pub or a manufacturer permit for beer issued under subsection (b) of section 30-16 and a brew pub before July 1, 2020, (M) off-site farm winery sales and wine, cider and mead tasting permits issued under section 30-16a, (N) out-of-state retailer shipper's permits for wine issued under section 30-18a, as amended by this act, (O) out-of-state winery shipper's permits for wine issued under section 30-18a, as amended by this act, (P) in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permits for alcoholic liquor issued under section 30-19f, as amended by this act, including, but not limited to, boats operating under such permits, (Q) seasonal outdoor open-air permits issued under section 30-22e, (R) festival permits issued under section 30-37t, (S) temporary auction permits issued under section 30-37u, as amended by this act, (T) outdoor open-air permits issued under section 30-22f, and (U) renewals of any permit described in subparagraphs (A) to (T), inclusive, of this subdivision, if applicable. The provisions of this subdivision regarding **[**publication and**]** placard display shall also be required of any applicant who seeks to amend the type of entertainment either upon filing of a renewal application or upon requesting permission of the department in a form that requires the approval of the municipal zoning official.

(4) In any case in which a permit has been issued to a partnership, if one or more of the partners dies or retires, the remaining partner or partners need not file a new application for the unexpired portion of the current permit, and no additional fee for such unexpired portion shall be required. Notice of any such change shall be given to the department and the permit shall be endorsed to show correct ownership. When any partnership changes by reason of the addition of one or more persons, a new application with new fees shall be required.

(c) Any ten persons who are at least eighteen years of age, and are residents of the town within which the business for which the permit or

renewal thereof has been applied for, is intended to be operated, or, in the case of a manufacturer's or a wholesaler's permit, any ten persons who are at least eighteen years of age and are residents of the state, may file with the department, within three weeks **[**from**]** after the last date **[**of publication of notice made**]** on which the applicant posts the placard pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of this section for an initial permit, and in the case of renewal of an existing permit, at least twenty-one days before the renewal date of such permit, a remonstrance containing any objection to the suitability of such applicant or proposed place of business, provided any such issue is not controlled by local zoning. Upon the filing of such remonstrance, the department, upon written application, shall hold a hearing and shall give such notice as it deems reasonable of the time and place at least five days before such hearing is had. The remonstrants shall designate one or more agents for service, who shall serve as the recipient or recipients of all notices issued by the department. At any time prior to the issuance of a decision by the department, a remonstrance may be withdrawn by the remonstrants or by such agent or agents acting on behalf of such remonstrants and the department may cancel the hearing or withdraw the case. The decision of the department on such application shall be final with respect to the remonstrance. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to festival permits issued under section 30-37t.

(d) No new permit shall be issued until the foregoing provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section have been complied with. If no new permit is issued within twelve months of the filing date, as defined in subsection (a) of this section, the application may, in the discretion of the department, be deemed withdrawn and shall then be returned to the applicant. Six months' or seasonal permits may be renewed, provided the renewal application and fee shall be filed at least twenty-one days before the reopening of the business, there is no change in the permittee, ownership or type of permit, and the permittee or backer did not receive a rebate of the permit fee with respect to the permit issued for the

previous year.

(e) The department may renew a permit that has expired if the applicant pays to the department a nonrefundable late fee pursuant to subsection (c) of section 21a-4, which fee shall be in addition to the fees prescribed in this chapter for the permit applied for. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to one-day permits, to any permit which is the subject of administrative or court proceedings, or where otherwise provided by law.

(f) (1) On and after January 1, 2026, no initial final permit shall be issued, and no transfer of interest application or application to permanently substitute the identity of the permittee shall be approved, to an applicant that offers or provides, or seeks to offer or provide, the direct sale of alcoholic beverages to consumers for on-premises or off-premises consumption unless the applicant, the applicant's backer, all members of the applicant's backer and the permittee have completed a liquor education program. Such liquor education program shall be created, offered and conducted in a form and manner prescribed by the department, and shall address (A) the prevention of (i) sales of alcoholic liquor to minors, and (ii) overservice of alcoholic liquor, (B) restrictions on alcoholic beverage promotions, and (C) any other topics prescribed by the department.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, (A) the department may, in the department's discretion, waive the liquor education program requirement established in said subdivision, provided the department waives such requirement in writing, (B) no person who holds an active provisional permit on January 1, 2026, shall be required to complete the liquor education program required under said subdivision in order to obtain a final permit, and (C) no person who holds an active final permit on January 1, 2026, shall be required to complete such liquor education program in order to renew such permit.

[(f)**]** (g) No person who assists an applicant, backer or permittee in submitting an application for a liquor permit shall submit, or cause to be submitted, any false statement in connection with such application, or engage in any conduct which delays or impedes the department in processing such application. A violation of this subsection shall be deemed an unfair or deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of section 42-110b. The commissioner, after providing an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with chapter 54, may impose on any person who violates the provisions of this subsection a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars per violation, and may order such person to pay restitution to the applicant, backer or permittee. All civil penalties paid, collected or recovered under this subsection shall be deposited in the consumer protection enforcement account established in section 21a-8a.

Sec. 14. Section 30-45 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

The Department of Consumer Protection shall refuse permits for the sale of alcoholic liquor to the following persons: (1) Any state marshal, judicial marshal, judge of any court, prosecuting officer or member of any police force; (2) any minor; (3) any constable who (A) performs criminal law enforcement duties and is considered a peace officer by town ordinance pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) of section 54-1f, or (B) is certified under the provisions of sections 7-294a to 7-294e, inclusive, and performs criminal law enforcement duties pursuant to the provisions of subsection (c) of section 54-1f; and (4) any special constable appointed pursuant to section 7-92. This section shall not apply to any out-of-state shipper's permit issued under section 30-18, as amended by this act, 30-18a, as amended by this act, or 30-19, any cafe permit issued under section 30-22a, any cafe permit for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-22g, any boat operating under any in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit issued under section 30-19f, as

amended by this act, or any airline permit issued under section 30-28a. As used in this section, "minor" means a minor, as defined in section 1-1d or as defined in section 30-1, as amended by this act, whichever age is older.

Sec. 15. Section 30-47 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) The Department of Consumer Protection may, in **[**its**]** the department's discretion, suspend, revoke or refuse to grant or renew a permit for the sale of alcoholic liquor, or impose a fine of not greater than one thousand dollars per violation, if the department has reasonable cause to believe: (1) That the applicant or permittee appears to be financially irresponsible or neglects to provide for the applicant's or permittee's family, or neglects or is unable to pay the applicant's or permittee's just debts; (2) that the applicant or permittee has been provided with funds by any wholesaler or manufacturer or has any forbidden connection with any other class of permittee as provided in this chapter; (3) that the applicant or permittee is in the habit of using alcoholic beverages to excess; (4) that the applicant or permittee has wilfully made any false statement to the department in a material matter; (5) that the applicant or permittee has been convicted of violating any of the liquor laws of this or any other state or the liquor laws of the United States or has been convicted of a felony as such term is defined in section 53a-25, provided any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the applicant or permittee's ability to safely or competently perform the duties associated with such permit, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the applicant or permittee, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release, or has such a criminal record that the department reasonably believes the applicant or permittee is not a suitable person to hold a permit, provided no refusal shall be rendered under this subdivision except in accordance with the provisions of

sections 46a-80 and 46a-81; (6) that the applicant or permittee has not been delegated full authority and control of the permit premises and of the conduct of all business on such premises; or (7) that the applicant, applicant's backer, backer or permittee has violated (A) any provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted under this chapter, or (B) any provision of sections 21a-425 to 21a-425d, inclusive, or any regulation adopted under subsection (k) of section 21a-425a. Any applicant, applicant's backer or backer shall be subject to the same disqualifications as provided in this chapter, or any regulation adopted under this chapter, for permittees.

(b) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may, in **[**his or her**]** the commissioner's discretion, require a permittee who has had **[**his or her**]** the permittee's permit for the sale of alcoholic liquor suspended or revoked pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to have such permittee's employees participate in an alcohol seller and server training program approved by the commissioner. The commissioner may require proof of completion of the program from the permittee prior to reactivation or reissuance of such permit.

[(c) In lieu of suspending or revoking a permit for the sale of alcoholic liquor pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the commissioner may require a permittee to have such permittee's employees participate in an alcohol seller and server training program.**]**

(c) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may, in the commissioner's discretion, enter into a settlement agreement, or a comparable negotiated settlement instrument, in lieu of proceeding to an administrative hearing. Such agreement or instrument may contain, but need not be limited to, provisions concerning settlement fees, probation, the suspension or placement of conditions on a permit issued by the department pursuant to this chapter, training requirements and additional security measures.

(d) (1) Any individual who has been convicted of any criminal offense may request, at any time, that the commissioner determine whether such individual's criminal conviction disqualifies the individual from obtaining a permit issued or conferred by the department pursuant to this chapter based on (A) the nature of the conviction and its relationship to the individual's ability to safely or competently perform the duties or responsibilities associated with such permit, (B) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the individual, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release of the individual.

(2) An individual making such request shall include (A) details of the individual's criminal conviction, and (B) any payment required by the commissioner. The commissioner may charge a fee of not more than fifteen dollars for each request made under this subsection. The department may waive such fee.

(3) Not later than thirty days after receiving a request under this subsection, the commissioner shall inform the individual making such request whether, based on the criminal record information submitted, such individual is disqualified from receiving or holding a permit issued **[**pursuant to**]** under this chapter.

(4) The commissioner is not bound by a determination made under this section, if, upon further investigation, the commissioner determines that the individual's criminal conviction differs from the information presented in the determination request.

Sec. 16. Subsection (a) of section 30-48 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) No backer or permittee of one permit class shall be a backer or permittee of any other permit class except in the case of airline permits issued under section 30-28a, boats operating under in-state

[transporter's**]** transporter permits issued under section 30-19f, as amended by this act, and cafe permits issued under subsections (d) and (h) of section 30-22a, except that: (1) A backer of a hotel permit issued under section 30-21 or a restaurant permit issued under section 30-22 may be a backer of both such classes; (2) a holder or backer of a restaurant permit issued under section 30-22, a cafe permit issued under subsection (a) of section 30-22a or a cafe permit for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-22g may be a holder or backer of any other or all of such classes; (3) a holder or backer of a restaurant permit issued under section 30-22 may be a holder or backer of a cafe permit issued under subsection (f) of section 30-22a; (4) a backer of a restaurant permit issued under section 30-22 may be a backer of a coliseum permit issued under section 30-33a when such restaurant is within a coliseum; (5) a backer of a hotel permit issued under section 30-21 may be a backer of a coliseum permit issued under section 30-33a; (6) a backer of a grocery store beer permit issued under subsection (c) of section 30-20, as amended by this act, may be (A) a backer of a package store permit issued under subsection (b) of section 30-20, as amended by this act, if such was the case on or before May 1, 1996, and (B) a backer of a restaurant permit issued under section 30-22, provided the restaurant permit premises do not abut or share the same space as the grocery store beer permit premises; (7) a backer of a cafe permit issued under subsection (j) of section 30-22a, may be a backer of a nonprofit theater permit issued under section 30-35a; (8) a backer of a nonprofit theater permit issued under section 30-35a may be a holder or backer of a hotel permit issued under section 30-21 or a coliseum permit issued under section 30-33a; (9) a backer of a concession permit issued under section 30-33, as amended by this act, may be a backer of a coliseum permit issued under section 30-33a; (10) a holder of an out-of-state winery shipper's permit for wine issued under section 30-18a, as amended by this act, may be a holder of an in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit issued under section 30-19f, as amended by this act; (11) a holder of an out-of-state shipper's permit for alcoholic liquor issued under section

30-18, as amended by this act, or an out-of-state winery shipper's permit for wine issued under section 30-18a, as amended by this act, may be a holder of an in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit issued under section 30-19f, as amended by this act; (12) a holder of a manufacturer permit for a farm winery issued under subsection (c) of section 30-16, as amended by this act, or a manufacturer permit for wine, cider and mead issued under subsection (d) of section 30-16, as amended by this act, may be a holder of an in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit issued under section 30-19f, as amended by this act, an off-site farm winery sales and tasting permit issued under section 30-16a or any combination of such permits; (13) the holder of a manufacturer permit for spirits, beer, a farm winery or wine, cider and mead, issued under subsection (a), (b), (c) or (d), respectively, of section 30-16, as amended by this act, may be a holder of a Connecticut craft cafe permit issued under section 30-22d, a restaurant permit or a restaurant permit for wine and beer issued under section 30-22 or a farmers' market sales permit issued under section 30-37o; (14) the holder of a restaurant permit issued under section 30-22, a cafe permit issued under section 30-22a, a cafe permit for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-22g or an in-state **[**transporter's**]** transporter permit issued under section 30-19f, as amended by this act, may be the holder of a seasonal outdoor open-air permit issued under section 30-22e or an outdoor open-air permit issued under section 30-22f; (15) the holder of a festival permit issued under section 30-37t may be the holder or backer of one or more of such other classes; (16) the holder of an out-of-state shipper's permit for alcoholic liquor other than beer issued under section 30-18, as amended by this act, an out-of-state winery shipper's permit for wine issued under section 30-18a, as amended by this act, or an out-of-state shipper's permit for beer issued under section 30-19 may be the holder of an out-of-state retailer shipper's permit for wine issued under section 30-18a, as amended by this act; and (17) the holder of a restaurant permit issued under section 30-22 may be a holder of a Connecticut craft cafe permit issued under section 30-22d, provided the permit premises are located

at two different addresses. Any person may be a permittee of more than one permit. No holder of a manufacturer permit for beer issued under subsection (b) of section 30-16 and no spouse or child of such holder may be a holder or backer of more than three restaurant permits issued under section 30-22, cafe permits issued under section 30-22a or cafe permits for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-22g.

Sec. 17. Section 30-87 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Any person who induces any minor to procure alcoholic liquor from any person permitted to sell such alcoholic liquor shall be subject to the penalties prescribed in section 30-113. The provisions of this section shall not apply to (1) the procurement of liquor by a person over age eighteen who is an employee or permit holder under section 30-90a where such procurement is made in the course of such person's employment or business, or (2) any such inducement in furtherance of an official investigation or enforcement activity <u>authorized or</u> conducted by a law enforcement agency <u>or the Department of Consumer Protection</u>. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent any action from being taken under section 30-55 or section 30-86, or both, against any person permitted to sell alcoholic liquor who has sold alcoholic liquor to a minor where such minor is participating in an official investigation or enforcement activity <u>authorized or</u> conducted by a law enforcement agency <u>or the department</u>.

Sec. 18. Subsection (a) of section 30-91 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) The sale, dispensing, consumption or presence in glasses or other receptacles suitable to allow for the consumption of alcoholic liquor by an individual in places operating under hotel permits issued under section 30-21, restaurant permits issued under section 30-22, cafe

permits issued under section 30-22a, cafe permits for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-22g, Connecticut craft cafe permits issued under section 30-22d, club permits issued under section 30-22aa, restaurant permits for catering establishments or qualified managed residential communities issued under section 30-22b, as amended by this act, coliseum permits issued under section 30-33a, temporary liquor permits for noncommercial entities issued under section 30-35, nonprofit public museum permits issued under section 30-37a, manufacturer permits for beer, a farm winery or wine, cider and mead issued under subsection (b), (c) or (d), respectively, of section 30-16, as amended by this act, casino permits issued under section 30-37k and caterer liquor permits issued under section 30-37j shall be unlawful on: (1) Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday between the hours of one o'clock a.m. and nine o'clock a.m.; (2) Saturday between the hours of two o'clock a.m. and nine o'clock a.m.; (3) Sunday between the hours of two o'clock a.m. and ten o'clock a.m.; (4) Christmas, except (A) for alcoholic liquor that is served where food is also available during the hours otherwise permitted by this section for the day on which Christmas falls, and (B) by casino permittees at casinos, as defined in section 30-37k; and (5) January first between the hours of three o'clock a.m. and nine o'clock a.m., except that on any Sunday that is January first the prohibitions of this section shall be between the hours of three o'clock a.m. and ten o'clock a.m.

Sec. 19. Subsection (a) of section 52-572w of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) Any covenant, agreement or understanding in, in connection with or collateral to any contract or agreement made or entered into with any caterer or catering establishment, as defined in subsection **[**(d)**]** (a) of section 30-22b, as amended by this act, that exempts such caterer or catering establishment from liability for damages for bodily injury to

persons or damage to property caused by or resulting from the negligence of the caterer or catering establishment, the agents, servants or employees of such caterer or catering establishment or the patrons at the event to which such contract or agreement pertains is against public policy and void.

Sec. 20. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 545 of the general statutes, during the period beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, the holder of a cafe permit issued under subsection (c) of section 30-22a of the general statutes or a restaurant permit for wine and beer issued under subsection (b) of section 30-22 of the general statutes may apply to the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, to convert such cafe permit or restaurant permit to a restaurant permit under subsection (a) of section 30-22 of the general statutes. No such applicant shall be required to affix and maintain a placard under subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 30-39 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

Sec. 21. Section 30-53 of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective October 1, 2025*)

Governor's Action:
Approved June 10, 2025