

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1053

BY REPRESENTATIVE VENTRELLA

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES: Provides relative to the definitions of a "dealer" and a "retail dealer"

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 26:2(7) and 241(24), relative to alcoholic beverages; to provide
3 for definitions; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

4 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

5 Section 1. R.S. 26:2(7) and 241(24) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as
6 follows:

7 §2. Definitions

8 For purposes of this Chapter, the following terms have the respective
9 meanings ascribed to them in this Section, unless a different meaning clearly appears
10 from the context:

11 * * *

12 (7) "Dealer" means any person who, as a business, manufactures, blends,
13 rectifies, distills, processes, imports, stores, uses, handles, holds, sells, offers for sale,
14 solicits orders for the sale of, distributes, delivers, serves, or transports any alcoholic
15 beverage in ~~the~~ this state or engages ~~herein~~ in any business transaction relating to any
16 ~~such~~ alcoholic beverage. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Paragraph, for
17 purposes of this Chapter, "dealer" shall not be construed to include a retailer of
18 goods or services whose business operations do not include the sale of alcoholic
19 beverages and that may offer or furnish an alcoholic beverage to one or more
20 customers solely on a complimentary basis, without direct or indirect consideration,

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 1053 Original

2026 Regular Session

Ventrella

Abstract: Redefines "dealer" and "retail dealer" for purposes of alcohol permits.

Present law defines "dealer", for the purpose of the issuance of an alcohol permit, as any person who, as a business, manufactures, blends, rectifies, distills, processes, imports, stores, uses, handles, holds, sells, offers for sale, solicits orders for the sale of, distributes, delivers, serves, or transports any alcoholic beverage in the state of La.

Proposed law retains present law but provides that "dealer" does not mean a retailer of goods or services whose business operations do not include the sale of alcoholic beverages, when the retailer offers an alcoholic beverage to one or more customers on a complimentary basis and only as incidental to its principal business.

Proposed law further provides that this service does not constitute engaging in the business of dealing in alcoholic beverages and does not require an alcohol permit, provided that all alcoholic beverages are purchased from a retailer licensed in the state of La.

Present law defines "retail dealer", for the purpose of the issuance of an alcohol permit, as every person who offers for sale, exposes for sale, has in his possession for sale or distribution, or sells alcoholic beverages in any quantity to persons other than licensed wholesale or retail dealers.

Proposed law retains present law but provides that "retail dealer" does not mean a retailer of goods or services whose business operations do not include the sale of alcoholic beverages, when the retailer offers an alcoholic beverage to one or more customers on a complimentary basis and only as incidental to its principal business.

Proposed law further provides that this service does not constitute engaging in the business of dealing in alcoholic beverages and does not require an alcohol permit, provided that all alcoholic beverages are purchased from a retailer licensed in the state of La.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 26:2(7) and 241(24))