

Vermont Legislative Joint Fiscal Office

One Baldwin Street • Montpelier, VT 05633-5701 • (802) 828-2295 • Fax: (802) 828-2483

FISCAL NOTE

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Prepared by: Daniel Dickerson

H.956 An act relating to miscellaneous amendments to alcoholic beverage laws – As Introduced

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2020/Docs/BILLS/H-0956/H-0956%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

Fiscal Summary

Sec. 1

This section contains a provision that would authorize municipalities to collect a \$50 fee from applicants for stand-alone 3rd class alcoholic beverage licenses. These would be applicants who intend to serve only spirits, not beer or wine, on their premises. The intent is for the municipality to receive some compensation for work that goes into processing 3rd class licenses, which is not possible under current law. Municipalities would have the choice of whether to implement the fee and would keep all proceeds. **No impact to state revenues is estimated.**

Sec. 2-3

These sections would adjust the term for all licenses, permits and certificates to one year from the date of issuance and would authorize the Dept. of Liquor and Lottery to establish a transition period to stagger license renewals and potentially extend licenses as needed in order to disburse license renewals. Under current law, all licenses expire on April 30 of each year, which creates a large workload for Department staff over a short period of time and requires some new licensees to potentially pay twice in a 12-month period for a license, permit or certificate. **These provisions could result in 1) a shift of some revenue between state budget years and 2) a small amount of lost revenue from new applicants that would pay twice in a year under current law.**