

# STATE OF NEW YORK

6691

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

March 7, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. EPSTEIN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Economic Development

AN ACT to amend the alcoholic beverage control law, in relation to making the provisions governing the various on-premises liquor licenses consistent with respect to public interest factors that may be considered by the state liquor authority when evaluating the merits of a license application

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

- 1 Section 1. Subdivision 6-a of section 64 of the alcoholic beverage  
2 control law, as added by chapter 670 of the laws of 1993, is amended to  
3 read as follows:
- 4 6-a. The authority may consider [~~any or~~] all of the following in  
5 determining whether public convenience and advantage and the public  
6 interest will be promoted by the granting of licenses and permits for  
7 the sale of alcoholic beverages at a particular unlicensed location:
- 8 (a) [~~The~~] the number, classes and character of licenses in proximity  
9 to the location and in the particular municipality or subdivision there-  
10 of[-];
- 11 (b) [~~Evidence~~] evidence that all necessary licenses and permits have  
12 been obtained from the state and all other governing bodies[-];
- 13 (c) [~~Effect~~] effect of the grant of the license on vehicular traffic  
14 and parking in proximity to the location[-];
- 15 (d) [~~The~~] the existing noise level at the location and any increase in  
16 noise level that would be generated by the proposed premises[-];
- 17 (e) [~~The~~] the history of liquor violations and reported criminal  
18 activity at the proposed premises[-];
- 19 (f) history of building and fire violations at any businesses owned  
20 and/or operated by the applicant;

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 (g) history of formal communication from the municipality or community  
2 board made pursuant to this chapter for businesses owned and/or operated  
3 by the applicant; and

4 (h) [Any] any other factors specified by law or regulation that are  
5 relevant to determine the public convenience and advantage [and—public  
6 interest—of—the—community] and necessary to find that the granting of  
7 such license shall be in the public interest.

8 § 2. Section 64-a of the alcoholic beverage control law is amended by  
9 adding a new subdivision 6-a to read as follows:

10 6-a. The authority may consider all of the following in determining  
11 whether public convenience and advantage and the public interest will be  
12 promoted by the granting of licenses and permits for the sale of alco-  
13 holic beverages at a particular unlicensed location:

14 (a) the number, classes and character of licenses in proximity to the  
15 location and in the particular municipality or subdivision thereof;

16 (b) evidence that applicants have secured all necessary licenses and  
17 permits from the state and all other governing bodies;

18 (c) the effect that the granting of the license will have on vehicular  
19 traffic and parking in the proximity of the location;

20 (d) the existing noise level at the location and any increase in noise  
21 level that would be generated by the proposed premises;

22 (e) the history of liquor violations and reported criminal activity at  
23 the proposed premises;

24 (f) history of building and fire violations at any businesses owned  
25 and/or operated by the applicant;

26 (g) history of formal communication from the municipality or community  
27 board made pursuant to this chapter for businesses owned and/or operated  
28 by the applicant; and

29 (h) any other factors specified by law or regulation that are relevant  
30 to determine the public convenience or advantage and necessary to find  
31 that the granting of such license shall be in the public interest.

32 § 3. Section 64-b of the alcoholic beverage control law is amended by  
33 adding a new subdivision 4-a to read as follows:

34 4-a. The authority may consider all of the following in determining  
35 whether public convenience and advantage and the public interest will be  
36 promoted by the granting of licenses and permits for the sale of alco-  
37 holic beverages at a particular unlicensed location:

38 (a) the number, classes and character of licenses in proximity to the  
39 location and in the particular municipality or subdivision thereof;

40 (b) evidence that applicants have secured all necessary licenses and  
41 permits from the state and all other governing bodies;

42 (c) the effect that the granting of the license will have on vehicular  
43 traffic and parking in the proximity of the location;

44 (d) the existing noise level at the location and any increase in noise  
45 level that would be generated by the proposed premises;

46 (e) the history of liquor violations and reported criminal activity at  
47 the proposed premises;

48 (f) history of building and fire violations at any businesses owned  
49 and/or operated by the applicant;

50 (g) history of formal communication from the municipality or community  
51 board made pursuant to this chapter for businesses owned and/or operated  
52 by the applicant; and

53 (h) any other factors specified by law or regulation that are relevant  
54 to determine the public convenience or advantage and necessary to find  
55 that the granting of such license shall be in the public interest.

1 § 4. Section 64-c of the alcoholic beverage control law is amended by  
2 adding a new subdivision 10-a to read as follows:

3 10-a. The authority may consider all of the following in determining  
4 whether public convenience and advantage and the public interest will be  
5 promoted by the granting of licenses and permits for the sale of alco-  
6 holic beverages at a particular unlicensed location:

7 (a) the number, classes and character of licenses in proximity to the  
8 location and in the particular municipality or subdivision thereof;

9 (b) evidence that applicants have secured all necessary licenses and  
10 permits from the state and all other governing bodies;

11 (c) the effect that the granting of the license will have on vehicular  
12 traffic and parking in the proximity of the location;

13 (d) the existing noise level at the location and any increase in noise  
14 level that would be generated by the proposed premises;

15 (e) the history of liquor violations and reported criminal activity at  
16 the proposed premises;

17 (f) history of building and fire violations at any businesses owned  
18 and/or operated by the applicant;

19 (g) history of formal communication from the municipality or community  
20 board made pursuant to this chapter for businesses owned and/or operated  
21 by the applicant; and

22 (h) any other factors specified by law or regulation that are relevant  
23 to determine the public convenience or advantage and necessary to find  
24 that the granting of such license shall be in the public interest.

25 § 5. Paragraph (f) of subdivision 7 of section 64 of the alcoholic  
26 beverage control law, as amended by chapter 185 of the laws of 2012, is  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 (f) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (b) of this subdivi-  
29 sion, the authority may issue a license pursuant to this section for a  
30 premises which shall be within five hundred feet of three or more exist-  
31 ing premises licensed and operating pursuant to this section and  
32 sections sixty-four-a, sixty-four-b, sixty-four-c, and/or sixty-four-d  
33 of this article if, after consultation with the municipality or communi-  
34 ty board, and due consideration of formal communication from the munici-  
35 pality or community board, it determines that granting such license  
36 would be in the public interest. Before it may issue any such license,  
37 the authority shall conduct a hearing, upon notice to the applicant and  
38 the municipality or community board, and shall state and file in its  
39 office its reasons therefor. The hearing may be rescheduled, adjourned  
40 or continued, and the authority shall give notice to the applicant and  
41 the municipality or community board of any such rescheduled, adjourned  
42 or continued hearing. Before the authority issues any said license, the  
43 authority or one or more of the commissioners thereof may, in addition  
44 to the hearing required by this paragraph, also conduct a public meeting  
45 regarding said license, upon notice to the applicant and the munic-  
46 ipality or community board. The public meeting may be rescheduled,  
47 adjourned or continued, and the authority shall give notice to the  
48 applicant and the municipality or community board of any such resched-  
49 uled, adjourned or continued public meeting. Notice to the municipality  
50 or community board shall mean written notice mailed by the authority to  
51 such municipality or community board at least fifteen days in advance of  
52 any hearing scheduled pursuant to this paragraph. Upon the request of  
53 the authority, any municipality or community board may waive the fifteen  
54 day notice requirement. No premises having been granted a license pursu-  
55 ant to this section shall be denied a renewal of such license upon the  
56 grounds that such premises are within five hundred feet of a building or

1 buildings wherein three or more premises are licensed and operating  
2 pursuant to this section and sections sixty-four-a, sixty-four-b,  
3 sixty-four-c, and/or sixty-four-d of this article.

4 § 6. Paragraph (d) of subdivision 7 of section 64-a of the alcoholic  
5 beverage control law, as amended by chapter 185 of the laws of 2012, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (ii) of paragraph  
8 (a) of this subdivision, the authority may issue a license pursuant to  
9 this section for a premises which shall be within five hundred feet of  
10 three or more existing premises licensed and operating pursuant to this  
11 section and sections sixty-four, sixty-four-b, sixty-four-c, and/or  
12 sixty-four-d of this article if, after consultation with the municipi-  
13 pality or community board, and due consideration of formal communication  
14 from the municipality or community board, it determines that granting  
15 such license would be in the public interest. Before it may issue any  
16 such license, the authority shall conduct a hearing, upon notice to the  
17 applicant and the municipality or community board, and shall state and  
18 file in its office its reasons therefor. Notice to the municipality or  
19 community board shall mean written notice mailed by the authority to  
20 such municipality or community board at least fifteen days in advance of  
21 any hearing scheduled pursuant to this paragraph. Upon the request of  
22 the authority, any municipality or community board may waive the fifteen  
23 day notice requirement. The hearing may be rescheduled, adjourned or  
24 continued, and the authority shall give notice to the applicant and the  
25 municipality or community board of any such rescheduled, adjourned or  
26 continued hearing. Before the authority issues any said license, the  
27 authority or one or more of the commissioners thereof may, in addition  
28 to the hearing required by this paragraph, also conduct a public meeting  
29 regarding said license, upon notice to the applicant and the municipi-  
30 pality or community board. The public meeting may be rescheduled,  
31 adjourned or continued, and the authority shall give notice to the  
32 applicant and the municipality or community board of any such resched-  
33 uled, adjourned or continued public meeting. No premises having been  
34 granted a license pursuant to this section shall be denied a renewal of  
35 such license upon the grounds that such premises are within five hundred  
36 feet of a building or buildings wherein three or more premises are  
37 licensed and operating pursuant to this section and sections sixty-four,  
38 sixty-four-b, sixty-four-c, and/or sixty-four-d of this article.

39 § 7. Paragraph (c) of subdivision 5 of section 64-b of the alcoholic  
40 beverage control law, as amended by chapter 185 of the laws of 2012, is  
41 amended to read as follows:

42 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (ii) of paragraph  
43 (a) of this subdivision, the authority may issue a license pursuant to  
44 this section for a premises which shall be within five hundred feet of  
45 three or more existing premises licensed and operating pursuant to this  
46 section and sections sixty-four, sixty-four-a, sixty-four-c, and/or  
47 sixty-four-d of this article if, after consultation with the municipi-  
48 pality or community board, and due consideration of formal communication  
49 from the municipality or community board, it determines that granting  
50 such license would be in the public interest. Before it may issue any  
51 such license, the authority shall conduct a hearing, upon notice to the  
52 applicant and the municipality or community board, and shall state and  
53 file in its office its reasons therefor. The hearing may be rescheduled,  
54 adjourned or continued, and the authority shall give notice to the  
55 applicant and the municipality or community board of any such resched-  
56 uled, adjourned or continued hearing. Before the authority issues any

1 said license, the authority or one or more of the commissioners thereof  
2 may, in addition to the hearing required by this paragraph, also conduct  
3 a public meeting regarding said license, upon notice to the applicant  
4 and the municipality or community board. The public meeting may be  
5 rescheduled, adjourned or continued, and the authority shall give notice  
6 to the applicant and the municipality or community board of any such  
7 rescheduled, adjourned or continued public meeting. Notice to the muni-  
8 cipality or community board shall mean written notice mailed by the  
9 authority to such municipality or community board at least fifteen days  
10 in advance of any hearing scheduled pursuant to this paragraph. Upon the  
11 request of the authority, any municipality or community board may waive  
12 the fifteen day notice requirement. No premises having been granted a  
13 license pursuant to this section shall be denied a renewal of such  
14 license upon the grounds that such premises are within five hundred feet  
15 of a building or buildings wherein three or more premises are licensed  
16 and operating pursuant to this section and sections sixty-four, sixty-  
17 four-a, sixty-four-c, and/or sixty-four-d of this article.

18 § 8. Paragraph (c) of subdivision 11 of section 64-c of the alcoholic  
19 beverage control law, as amended by chapter 185 of the laws of 2012, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (ii) of paragraph  
22 (a) of this subdivision, the authority may issue a license pursuant to  
23 this section for a premises which shall be within five hundred feet of  
24 three or more existing premises licensed and operating pursuant to this  
25 section and sections sixty-four, sixty-four-a, sixty-four-b and/or  
26 sixty-four-d of this article if, after consultation with the muni-  
27 cipality or community board, and due consideration of formal communication  
28 from the municipality or community board, it determines that granting  
29 such license would be in the public interest. Before it may issue any  
30 such license, the authority shall conduct a hearing, upon notice to the  
31 applicant and the municipality or community board, and shall state and  
32 file in its office its reasons therefor. The hearing may be rescheduled,  
33 adjourned or continued, and the authority shall give notice to the  
34 applicant and the municipality or community board of any such resched-  
35 uled, adjourned or continued hearing. Before the authority issues any  
36 said license, the authority or one or more of the commissioners thereof  
37 may, in addition to the hearing required by this paragraph, also conduct  
38 a public meeting regarding said license, upon notice to the applicant  
39 and the municipality or community board. The public meeting may be  
40 rescheduled, adjourned or continued, and the authority shall give notice  
41 to the applicant and the municipality or community board of any such  
42 rescheduled, adjourned or continued public meeting. Notice to the muni-  
43 cipality or community board shall mean written notice mailed by the  
44 authority to such municipality or community board at least fifteen days  
45 in advance of any hearing scheduled pursuant to this paragraph. Upon the  
46 request of the authority, any municipality or community board may waive  
47 the fifteen day notice requirement. No premises having been granted a  
48 license pursuant to this section shall be denied a renewal of such  
49 license upon the grounds that such premises are within five hundred feet  
50 of a building or buildings wherein three or more premises are operating  
51 and licensed pursuant to this section or sections sixty-four, sixty-  
52 four-a, sixty-four-b and/or sixty-four-d of this article.

53 § 9. This act shall take effect immediately.