

CHAPTER 292  
SB 87-FN - FINAL VERSION

03/06/2025 0562s  
03/27/2025 1100s  
5Jun2025... 2293h  
06/26/2025 2799CofC  
06/26/2025 2927EBA

2025 SESSION

25-1032  
08/09

SENATE BILL **87-FN**

AN ACT relative to one-day liquor license requirements and making salons and barber shops eligible for on-premise licenses.

SPONSORS: Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Sen. Murphy, Dist 16; Sen. Innis, Dist 7; Sen. McGough, Dist 11; Rep. C. McGuire, Merr. 27

COMMITTEE: Commerce

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ANALYSIS

This bill allows for-profit organizations to receive a one-day liquor license and makes barber shops, salons, and spas eligible for on-premises licenses.

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Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through.~~]  
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five*

AN ACT relative to one-day liquor license requirements and making salons and barber shops eligible for on-premise licenses.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1 292:1 New Subparagraph; On-Premises Licenses; For-Profit Organizations. Amend RSA 178:22, V  
2 by inserting after subparagraph (I) the following new subparagraph:

3 (I-a) One-Day Licenses for For-Profit Organizations.

4 (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of RSA 178:2, I, the commission may issue a limited  
5 license to any responsible individual representing a for-profit group or organization approved by the  
6 commission.

7 (2) Events held under this license shall be limited to 500 or less patrons. No more than 6  
8 licenses shall be issued to any one entity in a calendar year.

9 (3) Such license shall authorize the licensee to sell, on premises approved by the  
10 commission, beverages, specialty beverages, and liquor on the approved premises.

11 (4) No license shall be issued under subparagraph (I-a)(1) unless the organization's  
12 representative obtains:

13 (A) Official approval of the chief of the local fire department as to the safety of the  
14 premises.

15 (B) Official approval of the local health department concerning sanitary  
16 accommodations.

17 (C) Official approval of the chief of police as to the accessibility of the premises.

18 Written statements from such officials shall accompany the application for the license. Such application  
19 shall be filed with the commission 15 days before the date on which the license is needed.

20 (5) No person under the age of 18 shall be allowed in those areas where beverages,  
21 specialty beverages, and liquor are served, unless accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or adult  
22 spouse. The selectmen of the town in which such licenses are held may, at their discretion, assign police  
23 officers to the premises where liquor, beverages, or specialty beverages are being served.

24 (6) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the commission or its investigators may  
25 suspend without warning any license issued under subparagraph (I-a)(1) if, in their opinion, such sale of  
26 liquor, beverages, or specialty beverages is contrary to the public interest.

27 292:2 Free Tastings. Amend RSA 179:44, II to read as follows:

28 II. Notwithstanding paragraph I, beverage manufacturers, liquor manufacturers, rectifiers,  
29 beverage vendors, brew pubs, wholesale distributors and their liquor or wine vendors, their liquor and

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1 wine representatives, domestic wine manufacturers, and on-premises and off-premises licensees may  
2 conduct beverage, liquor, or wine tasting, as applicable, on [licensed] premises *approved by the*  
3 *commission*. Liquor, beverage, or wine tasting shall be conducted only during such hours as are  
4 authorized by the commission for the sale of the product on the premises.

5 292:3 On-Premises Licenses. Amend RSA 178:21, I(a) to read as follows:

6 I.(a) The commission may issue a license to any of the types of businesses specified in  
7 [paragraph H] *paragraphs II through IV* of this section in any town which has voted to accept the provisions  
8 of RSA 663:5, I(b), (c), and (d). The license shall entitle the licensee to serve beverages or specialty  
9 beverages containing at least 1/2 percent and not more than 8 percent alcohol by volume at 60 degrees  
10 Fahrenheit by the glass or other suitable container and by the bottle with the cork or cap removed; liquor  
11 containing more than 6 percent alcohol by volume at 60 degrees Fahrenheit, by the glass or other suitable  
12 container; and wines, by the glass, by the bottle with the cork or cap removed; or other suitable container,  
13 under rules adopted by the commission.

14 292:4 New Paragraphs; On-Premises Licenses. Amend RSA 178:21 by inserting after paragraph II  
15 the following new paragraphs:

16 III. The commission may issue a license to a business currently licensed through the office of  
17 professional licensure and certification, pursuant to RSA 313-A:19, as a salon or barbershop, as  
18 defined under RSA 313-A:1, to serve one alcoholic beverage to customers who are receiving services  
19 from said establishment.

20 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of RSA 179:44, a licensee under this paragraph may  
21 serve alcoholic beverages and liquor for free, which shall be limited to one drink per customer in the  
22 amount not to exceed one 16-ounce glass of beverage, 6-ounce glass of wine, or 1 ½ ounces of liquor  
23 per person. The licensee shall keep records of the patron served. Such records shall be retained by the  
24 licensed facility and shall be made available to the commission upon request.

25 (b) The fee for the license under this paragraph shall be \$100.

26 (c) Nothing in this section shall allow the commission to issue a license to a salon or  
27 barbershop located within a private residence.

28 IV. The commission may issue a limited special license to any business registered with the  
29 secretary of state as approved by the commission. Commission approval shall be subject to a specific  
30 location and business plan and shall not be broadly applied.

31 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of RSA 179:44, a licensee under this paragraph may  
32 serve alcoholic beverages and liquor for free, which shall be limited to one drink per customer in the  
33 amount not to exceed one 16-ounce glass of beverage, 6-ounce glass of wine, or 1 ½ ounces of liquor  
34 per person. The licensee shall keep records of the patron served. Such records shall be retained by the  
35 licensed facility and shall be made available to the commission upon request.

36 (b) The fee for the special license under this paragraph shall be \$100.

37 292:5 Effective Date.

38 I. RSA 178:21, IV as inserted by section 4 of this act shall take effect 365 days after its passage.

39 II. The remainder of this act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

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Approved: August 01, 2025

Effective Date:

I. RSA 178:21 IV as inserted by section 4 effective August 1, 2026

II. Remainder effective September 30, 2025

