

Senate Bill No. 345–Senator Settlemeyer

Joint Sponsors: Assemblymen Titus,
Wheeler, Tolles; and Ellison

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to estate distilleries; authorizing brew pubs and certain wineries to transfer certain malt beverages and wine in bulk to an estate distillery; authorizing a wholesale dealer of liquor to make such a transfer; authorizing an estate distillery to receive malt beverages and wine in bulk for the purpose of distillation and blending; revising when certain spirits that are received or transferred in bulk are subject to taxation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law provides for the operation of brew pubs, estate distilleries and wineries. (NRS 597.230, 597.237 and 597.240) Existing law requires an estate distillery to ensure that none of the spirits manufactured at the estate distillery are derived from neutral or distilled spirits manufactured by another manufacturer. (NRS 597.237)

Section 2 of this bill authorizes an estate distillery to blend and distill wines and malt beverages, provided such wines and malt beverages are acquired from a licensed brew pub or winery in this State meeting certain requirements.

Sections 1.3-2.9 of this bill authorize an estate distillery to receive from a licensed wholesale dealer of liquor, brew pub or winery in this State meeting certain requirements, in bulk, wine or malt beverages for the purpose of distillation and blending. **Sections 1.5, 2.5 and 2.7-2.9** authorize such transfers to be made: (1) by a licensed wholesale dealer of liquor; or (2) directly by a licensed brew pub or winery to an estate distillery only if no licensed wholesale dealer of liquor is able or willing to make the transfer and a special permit for the transportation of the wine or malt beverages is obtained under existing law from the Department of Taxation. **Sections 1.5, 2, 2.3, 2.5 and 2.7** provide that wine and malt beverages so received by an estate distillery are taxable only when the wine or malt beverages are distilled or blended, or both, bottled in original packages for sale within this State and removed from the federally bonded premises of the estate distillery.

Existing law authorizes an estate distillery to transfer in bulk neutral or distilled spirits to a supplier. Existing law provides that any such transfer is taxable only when the neutral or distilled spirits are rectified and bottled in original packages for sale within this State. (NRS 597.237) **Section 2** provides that neutral or distilled spirits which are so received are taxable only when they are bottled in original packages for sale within this State and are removed from the federally bonded premises of the supplier.



THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 1.3. NRS 597.150 is hereby amended to read as follows:

597.150 “Wholesaler” means any person, partnership, corporation or other form of business enterprise licensed by the Nevada Tax Commission to sell malt beverages, distilled spirits and wines, or all of them, as it is originally packaged to retail liquor stores or to another licensed wholesaler, *or to transfer malt beverages and wine to an estate distillery pursuant to NRS 597.230 and 597.240, respectively*, but not to sell to the consumer or general public.

Sec. 1.5. NRS 597.230 is hereby amended to read as follows:

597.230 1. In any county, a person may operate a brew pub:

(a) In any redevelopment area established in that county pursuant to chapter 279 of NRS;

(b) In any historic district established in that county pursuant to NRS 384.005;

(c) In any retail liquor store as that term is defined in NRS 369.090; or

(d) In any other area in the county designated by the board of county commissioners for the operation of brew pubs. In a city which is located in that county, a person may operate a brew pub in any area in the city designated by the governing body of that city for the operation of brew pubs.

↪ A person who operates one or more brew pubs may not manufacture more than 40,000 barrels of malt beverages for all the brew pubs he or she operates in this State in any calendar year.

2. The premises of any brew pub operated pursuant to this section must be conspicuously identified as a “brew pub.”

3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, a person who operates one or more brew pubs pursuant to this section may, upon obtaining a license pursuant to chapter 369 of NRS and complying with any other applicable governmental requirements:

(a) Manufacture and store malt beverages on the premises of one or more of the brew pubs and:

(1) Sell and transport the malt beverages manufactured on the premises to a person holding a valid wholesale wine and liquor dealer’s license or wholesale beer dealer’s license issued pursuant to chapter 369 of NRS.



(2) Donate for charitable or nonprofit purposes and, for the purposes of the donation, transport the malt beverages manufactured on the premises in accordance with the terms and conditions of a special permit for the transportation of the malt beverages obtained from the Department of Taxation pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 369.450.

(3) Transfer in bulk the malt beverages manufactured on the premises:

(I) To a person holding a valid wholesale wine and liquor dealer's license or wholesale beer dealer's license issued pursuant to chapter 369 of NRS for the purpose of transferring in bulk the malt beverages to an estate distillery for the purpose of distillation and blending, which transfer is taxable only as provided in NRS 597.237; or

(II) If there is no wholesaler who is able or willing to accept and transfer in bulk the malt beverages pursuant to subparagraph (I), to a person holding a valid license to operate an estate distillery issued pursuant to chapter 369 of NRS for the purpose of distillation and blending, which transfer is taxable only as provided in NRS 597.237 and must be performed in accordance with the terms and conditions of a special permit for the transportation of the malt beverages obtained from the Department of Taxation pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 369.450.

(b) Manufacture and store malt beverages on the premises of one or more of the brew pubs and transport the malt beverages manufactured on the premises to a retailer, other than a person who operates a brew pub pursuant to this section, that holds a valid license pursuant to chapter 369 of NRS for the purpose of selling the malt beverages at a special event in accordance with the terms and conditions of a special permit for the transportation of the malt beverages obtained from the Department of Taxation pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 369.450. For the purposes of this paragraph, the person who operates one or more brew pubs shall not obtain more than 20 such special permits for the transportation of the malt beverages from the Department of Taxation pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 369.450 within a calendar year.

(c) Sell at retail, not for resale, malt beverages manufactured on or off the premises of one or more of the brew pubs for consumption on the premises.

(d) Sell at retail, not for resale, in packages sealed on the premises of one or more of the brew pubs, malt beverages, including malt beverages in unpasteurized form, manufactured on the premises for consumption off the premises.



4. The amount of malt beverages sold pursuant to paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of subsection 3 must not exceed a total of 5,000 barrels in any calendar year. Of the 5,000 barrels, not more than 1,000 barrels may be sold in kegs.

Sec. 2. NRS 597.237 is hereby amended to read as follows:

597.237 1. A person may operate an estate distillery if the person:

- (a) Obtains a license for the facility pursuant to chapter 369 of NRS;
- (b) Complies with the requirements of this chapter; and
- (c) Complies with any other applicable governmental requirements.

2. A person who operates an estate distillery pursuant to this section may:

(a) In addition to manufacturing spirits from agricultural raw materials through distillation, blend, age, store and bottle the spirits so manufactured. The person operating the estate distillery shall ensure that none of the spirits manufactured at the estate distillery are derived from neutral or distilled spirits manufactured by another ~~manufacturer.~~ *manufacturer, except as authorized by paragraph (b).*

(b) *Blend and distill wines or malt beverages, provided any such wine or malt beverage was manufactured by:*

(1) A brew pub licensed pursuant to NRS 597.230;

(2) A winery that has been issued a wine-maker's license pursuant to NRS 369.200 on or before September 30, 2015; or

(3) A winery that has been issued a wine-maker's license pursuant to NRS 369.200 on or after October 1, 2015, if 25 percent or more of the wine produced, blended or aged by the winery is produced, blended or aged from fruit grown in this State.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in paragraphs ~~((f) and (g))~~ *(g) and (h)*, in any calendar year, sell and transport in Nevada not more than a combined total of 75,000 cases of spirits at the estate distillery to a person who holds a license to engage in business as a wholesale dealer of liquor pursuant to chapter 369 of NRS.

~~((e))~~ *(d)* In any calendar year, manufacture for exportation to another state, not more than a combined total of 400,000 cases of spirits at all the estate distilleries the person operates.

~~((d))~~ *(e)* On the premises of the estate distillery, serve samples of the spirits manufactured at the estate distillery. Any such samples must not exceed, per person, per day, 4 fluid ounces in volume.

~~((e))~~ *(f)* On the premises of the estate distillery, sell the spirits manufactured at the estate distillery at retail for consumption on or



off the premises. Any such spirits sold at retail for off-premises consumption must not exceed, per person, per month, 1 case of spirits and not exceed, per person, per year, 6 cases of spirits. The total amount of such spirits sold at retail for off-premises consumption must not exceed 7,500 cases per year. Spirits purchased on the premises of an estate distillery must not be resold by the purchaser or any retail liquor store. A person who operates an estate distillery shall prominently display on the premises a notice that the resale of spirits purchased on the premises is prohibited.

~~[(f)]~~ (g) Donate for charitable or nonprofit purposes and transport neutral or distilled spirits manufactured at the estate distillery in accordance with the terms and conditions of a special permit for the transportation of the neutral or distilled spirits obtained from the Department of Taxation pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 369.450.

~~[(g)]~~ (h) Transfer in bulk neutral or distilled spirits manufactured at the estate distillery to a supplier. Any such transfer:

(1) Is taxable only when the neutral or distilled spirits are rectified and bottled in original packages for sale within this State ~~[(j)]~~ *and removed from the federally bonded premises of the supplier;* and

(2) Is not a sale for the purposes of paragraph ~~[(b)]~~ (c) or manufacturing for exportation for the purposes of paragraph ~~[(e)]~~ (d).

(i) Subject to the provisions of subsection 3, receive wine or malt beverages in bulk from a person described in subparagraph (1), (2) or (3) of paragraph (b), or from a wholesale dealer of alcoholic beverages who is licensed under chapter 369 of NRS and who is transferring such wine or malt beverages pursuant to NRS 597.230 or 597.240, for the purpose of distillation and blending. Wine and malt beverages so received are taxable only when the wine and malt beverages are:

(1) Distilled, blended or both, and bottled in original packages for sale within this State; and

(2) Removed from the federally bonded premises of the estate distillery.

3. A person who operates an estate distillery shall not receive a shipment of wine or malt beverages:

(a) Unless the person first notifies the Department of Taxation that the distillery will receive such a shipment; and

(b) Except as authorized by paragraph (i) of subsection 2.



4. Spirits manufactured by an estate distillery pursuant to this section may be sold in this State only after bottling in original packages.

Sec. 2.3. NRS 597.237 is hereby amended to read as follows:

597.237 1. A person may operate an estate distillery if the person:

(a) Obtains a license for the facility pursuant to chapter 369 of NRS;

(b) Complies with the requirements of this chapter; and

(c) Complies with any other applicable governmental requirements.

2. A person who operates an estate distillery pursuant to this section may:

(a) In addition to manufacturing spirits from agricultural raw materials through distillation, blend, age, store and bottle the spirits so manufactured. The person operating the estate distillery shall ensure that none of the spirits manufactured at the estate distillery are derived from neutral or distilled spirits manufactured by another ~~manufacturer.~~ *manufacturer, except as authorized by paragraph (b).*

(b) *Blend and distill wines or malt beverages, provided any such wine or malt beverage was manufactured by:*

(1) A brew pub licensed pursuant to NRS 597.230;

(2) A winery that has been issued a wine-maker's license pursuant to NRS 369.200 if 25 percent or more of the wine produced, blended or aged by the winery is produced, blended or aged from fruit grown in this State.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in paragraphs ~~(f) and (g).~~ *(g) and (h)*, in any calendar year, sell and transport in Nevada not more than a combined total of 75,000 cases of spirits at the estate distillery to a person who holds a license to engage in business as a wholesale dealer of liquor pursuant to chapter 369 of NRS.

~~(e)~~ *(d)* In any calendar year, manufacture for exportation to another state, not more than a combined total of 400,000 cases of spirits at all the estate distilleries the person operates.

~~(d)~~ *(e)* On the premises of the estate distillery, serve samples of the spirits manufactured at the estate distillery. Any such samples must not exceed, per person, per day, 4 fluid ounces in volume.

~~(e)~~ *(f)* On the premises of the estate distillery, sell the spirits manufactured at the estate distillery at retail for consumption on or off the premises. Any such spirits sold at retail for off-premises consumption must not exceed, per person, per month, 1 case of spirits and not exceed, per person, per year, 6 cases of spirits. The



total amount of such spirits sold at retail for off-premises consumption must not exceed 7,500 cases per year. Spirits purchased on the premises of an estate distillery must not be resold by the purchaser or any retail liquor store. A person who operates an estate distillery shall prominently display on the premises a notice that the resale of spirits purchased on the premises is prohibited.

~~[(g)]~~ **(g)** Donate for charitable or nonprofit purposes and transport neutral or distilled spirits manufactured at the estate distillery in accordance with the terms and conditions of a special permit for the transportation of the neutral or distilled spirits obtained from the Department of Taxation pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 369.450.

~~[(g)]~~ **(h)** Transfer in bulk neutral or distilled spirits manufactured at the estate distillery to a supplier. Any such transfer:

(1) Is taxable only when the neutral or distilled spirits are rectified and bottled in original packages for sale within this State ~~[(h)]~~ **and removed from the federally bonded premises of the supplier;** and

(2) Is not a sale for the purposes of paragraph ~~[(b)]~~ **(c)** or manufacturing for exportation for the purposes of paragraph ~~[(e)]~~ **(d)**.

(i) Subject to the provisions of subsection 3, receive wine or malt beverages in bulk from a person described in subparagraph (1) or (2) of paragraph (b), or from a wholesale dealer of alcoholic beverages who is licensed under chapter 369 of NRS and who is transferring such wine or malt beverages pursuant to NRS 597.230 or 597.240, for the purpose of distillation and blending. Wine and malt beverages so received are taxable only when the wine and malt beverages are:

(1) Distilled, blended or both, and bottled in original packages for sale within this State; and

(2) Removed from the federally bonded premises of the estate distillery.

3. A person who operates an estate distillery shall not receive a shipment of wine or malt beverages:

(a) Unless the person first notifies the Department of Taxation that the distillery will receive such a shipment; and

(b) Except as authorized by paragraph (i) of subsection 2.

4. Spirits manufactured by an estate distillery pursuant to this section may be sold in this State only after bottling in original packages.



Sec. 2.5. NRS 597.240 is hereby amended to read as follows:

597.240 1. A winery that is federally bonded and permitted by the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau of the United States Department of the Treasury, including, without limitation, an alternating proprietorship of not more than four such wineries, and that has been issued a wine-maker's license pursuant to NRS 369.200 may:

(a) Produce, bottle, blend and age wine.

(b) Import wine or juice from a winery that is located in another state and that is federally bonded and permitted by the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, to be fermented into wine or, if already fermented, to be mixed with other wine or aged in a suitable cellar, or both.

2. A winery that has been issued a wine-maker's license pursuant to NRS 369.200 on or before September 30, 2015, may:

(a) Sell at retail or serve by the glass, on its premises and at one other location, wine produced, blended or aged by the winery. The amount of wine sold at a location other than on the premises of the winery may not exceed 50 percent of the total volume of the wine sold by the winery.

(b) Serve by the glass, on its premises, any alcoholic beverage.

(c) *Transfer in bulk wine produced, blended or aged by the winery:*

(1) To a person holding a valid wholesale wine and liquor dealer's license issued pursuant to chapter 369 of NRS for the purpose of transferring in bulk the wine to an estate distillery for the purpose of distillation and blending, which transfer is taxable only as provided in NRS 597.237; or

(2) If there is no wholesaler who is able or willing to accept and transfer in bulk the wine pursuant to subparagraph (1), to a person holding a valid license to operate an estate distillery issued pursuant to chapter 369 of NRS for the purpose of distillation and blending, which transfer is taxable only as provided in NRS 597.237 and must be performed in accordance with the terms and conditions of a special permit for the transportation of the wine obtained from the Department of Taxation pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 369.450.

3. A winery that is issued a wine-maker's license pursuant to NRS 369.200 on or after October 1, 2015:

(a) If 25 percent or more of the wine produced, blended or aged by the winery is produced, blended or aged from fruit grown in this State, may ~~sell~~:



(1) *Sell* at retail or serve by the glass, on its premises, wine produced, blended or aged by the winery.

(2) *Transfer in bulk wine produced, blended or aged by the winery:*

(I) *To a person holding a valid wholesale wine and liquor dealer's license issued pursuant to chapter 369 of NRS for the purpose of transferring in bulk the wine to an estate distillery for the purpose of distillation and blending, which transfer is taxable only as provided in NRS 597.237; or*

(II) *If there is no wholesaler who is able or willing to accept and transfer in bulk the wine pursuant to sub-subparagraph (I), to a person holding a valid license to operate an estate distillery issued pursuant to chapter 369 of NRS for the purpose of distillation and blending, which transfer is taxable only as provided in NRS 597.237.*

(b) If less than 25 percent of the wine produced, blended or aged by the winery is produced, blended or aged from fruit grown in this State, may sell at retail or serve by the glass, on its premises, not more than 1,000 cases of wine produced, blended or aged by the winery per calendar year.

4. The owner or operator of a winery shall not:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b) of subsection 2, sell alcoholic beverages on the premises of the winery other than wine produced, blended or aged by the winery.

(b) Produce, blend or age wine at any location other than on the premises of the winery.

5. The State Board of Agriculture may adopt regulations for the purposes of ensuring that a winery is in compliance with any requirements established by the Federal Government for labeling bottles of wine produced, blended or aged by the winery.

6. For the purposes of this section, an instructional wine-making facility is not a winery.

Sec. 2.7. NRS 597.240 is hereby amended to read as follows:

597.240 1. A winery that is federally bonded and permitted by the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau of the United States Department of the Treasury, including, without limitation, an alternating proprietorship of not more than four such wineries, and that has been issued a wine-maker's license pursuant to NRS 369.200 may:

(a) Produce, bottle, blend and age wine.

(b) Import wine or juice from a winery that is located in another state and that is federally bonded and permitted by the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, to be fermented into wine or, if



already fermented, to be mixed with other wine or aged in a suitable cellar, or both.

2. A winery that has been issued a wine-maker's license pursuant to NRS 369.200 on or before September 30, 2015, may:

(a) Within the limits prescribed by subsection 3, sell at retail or serve by the glass, on its premises and at one other location, wine produced, blended or aged by the winery. The amount of wine sold at a location other than on the premises of the winery may not exceed 50 percent of the total volume of the wine sold by the winery.

(b) Serve by the glass, on its premises, any alcoholic beverage.

3. A winery that is issued a wine-maker's license pursuant to NRS 369.200:

(a) If 25 percent or more of the wine produced, blended or aged by the winery is produced, blended or aged from fruit grown in this State, may ~~sell~~:

(1) *Sell* at retail or serve by the glass, on its premises and, if applicable, at one other location, wine produced, blended or aged by the winery.

(2) *Transfer in bulk wine produced, blended or aged by the winery:*

(I) To a person holding a valid wholesale wine and liquor dealer's license issued pursuant to chapter 369 of NRS for the purpose of transferring in bulk the wine to an estate distillery for the purpose of distillation and blending, which transfer is taxable only as provided in NRS 597.237; or

(II) If there is no wholesaler who is able or willing to accept and transfer in bulk the wine pursuant to subparagraph (I), to a person holding a valid license to operate an estate distillery issued pursuant to chapter 369 of NRS for the purpose of distillation and blending, which transfer is taxable only as provided in NRS 597.237.

(b) If less than 25 percent of the wine produced, blended or aged by the winery is produced, blended or aged from fruit grown in this State, may sell at retail or serve by the glass, on its premises and, if applicable, at one other location, not more than 1,000 cases of wine produced, blended or aged by the winery per calendar year.

4. The owner or operator of a winery shall not:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b) of subsection 2, sell alcoholic beverages on the premises of the winery other than wine produced, blended or aged by the winery.

(b) Produce, blend or age wine at any location other than on the premises of the winery.



5. The State Board of Agriculture may adopt regulations for the purposes of ensuring that a winery is in compliance with any requirements established by the Federal Government for labeling bottles of wine produced, blended or aged by the winery.

6. For the purposes of this section, an instructional wine-making facility is not a winery.

Sec. 2.8. NRS 369.130 is hereby amended to read as follows:

369.130 As used in this chapter, “wholesale dealer” or “wholesaler” means a person licensed to sell liquor as it is originally packaged to retail liquor stores or to another licensed wholesaler, *or to transfer malt beverages and wine to an estate distillery pursuant to NRS 597.230 and 597.240, respectively*, but not to sell to the consumer or general public.

Sec. 2.9. NRS 369.470 is hereby amended to read as follows:

369.470 Wholesale dealers’ licenses shall permit the holders thereof to sell liquor to wholesalers, retailers and those instrumentalities of the Armed Forces of the United States specified in NRS 369.335 only anywhere in Nevada ~~[-]~~, *or to transfer malt beverages and wine to an estate distillery pursuant to NRS 597.230 and 597.240, respectively*. Sale by a wholesaler to itself as a retailer is not the transaction of a bona fide wholesale business.

Sec. 3. 1. This section and sections 1.3, 1.5, 2, 2.5, 2.8 and 2.9 of this act become effective on July 1, 2019.

2. Sections 2.3 and 2.7 of this act become effective on October 1, 2025.

