



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB1624

Introduced 2/4/2025, by Sen. Cristina Castro

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

235 ILCS 5/8-2

from Ch. 43, par. 159

Amends the Liquor Control Act of 1934. In a provision requiring certain licensees to file a bond with the Department of Revenue, provides an exception for a manufacturer or importing distributor who is applying for a manufacturer's or importing distributor's license for the first time. Provides that the bond may be required as a condition to renew a license for subsequent annual license terms if a manufacturer or importing distributor exceeds \$50,000 in tax liability. Provides that the Illinois Liquor Control Commission shall not renew a license for any applicant for a manufacturer's or importing distributor's license if the State Commission has received a notification from the Department showing that the applicant is required to file and has not filed a satisfactory bond with the Department and that the bond has not been approved by the Department. Removes language providing that the State Commission shall not issue a license to any applicant for a manufacturer's or importing distributor's license unless the Commission has received a notification from the Department showing that such applicant has filed a satisfactory bond with the Department and that such bond has been approved by the Department.

LRB104 10426 RPS 20501 b

1 AN ACT concerning liquor.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Liquor Control Act of 1934 is amended by
5 changing Section 8-2 as follows:

6 (235 ILCS 5/8-2) (from Ch. 43, par. 159)

7 Sec. 8-2. Payments; reports. It is the duty of each
8 manufacturer with respect to alcoholic liquor produced or
9 imported by such manufacturer, or purchased tax-free by such
10 manufacturer from another manufacturer or importing
11 distributor, and of each importing distributor as to alcoholic
12 liquor purchased by such importing distributor from foreign
13 importers or from anyone from any point in the United States
14 outside of this State or purchased tax-free from another
15 manufacturer or importing distributor, to pay the tax imposed
16 by Section 8-1 to the Department of Revenue on or before the
17 15th day of the calendar month following the calendar month in
18 which such alcoholic liquor is sold or used by such
19 manufacturer or by such importing distributor other than in an
20 authorized tax-free manner or to pay that tax electronically
21 as provided in this Section.

22 Each manufacturer and each importing distributor shall
23 make payment under one of the following methods: (1) on or

1 before the 15th day of each calendar month, file in person or
2 by United States first-class mail, postage pre-paid, with the
3 Department of Revenue, on forms prescribed and furnished by
4 the Department, a report in writing in such form as may be
5 required by the Department in order to compute, and assure the
6 accuracy of, the tax due on all taxable sales and uses of
7 alcoholic liquor occurring during the preceding month. Payment
8 of the tax in the amount disclosed by the report shall
9 accompany the report or, (2) on or before the 15th day of each
10 calendar month, electronically file with the Department of
11 Revenue, on forms prescribed and furnished by the Department,
12 an electronic report in such form as may be required by the
13 Department in order to compute, and assure the accuracy of,
14 the tax due on all taxable sales and uses of alcoholic liquor
15 occurring during the preceding month. An electronic payment of
16 the tax in the amount disclosed by the report shall accompany
17 the report. A manufacturer or distributor who files an
18 electronic report and electronically pays the tax imposed
19 pursuant to Section 8-1 to the Department of Revenue on or
20 before the 15th day of the calendar month following the
21 calendar month in which such alcoholic liquor is sold or used
22 by that manufacturer or importing distributor other than in an
23 authorized tax-free manner shall pay to the Department the
24 amount of the tax imposed pursuant to Section 8-1, less a
25 discount which is allowed to reimburse the manufacturer or
26 importing distributor for the expenses incurred in keeping and

1 maintaining records, preparing and filing the electronic
2 returns, remitting the tax, and supplying data to the
3 Department upon request.

4 The discount shall be in an amount as follows:

5 (1) For original returns due on or after January 1,
6 2003 through September 30, 2003, the discount shall be
7 1.75% or \$1,250 per return, whichever is less;

8 (2) For original returns due on or after October 1,
9 2003 through September 30, 2004, the discount shall be 2%
10 or \$3,000 per return, whichever is less; and

11 (3) For original returns due on or after October 1,
12 2004, the discount shall be 2% or \$2,000 per return,
13 whichever is less.

14 The Department may, if it deems it necessary in order to
15 insure the payment of the tax imposed by this Article, require
16 returns to be made more frequently than and covering periods
17 of less than a month. Such return shall contain such further
18 information as the Department may reasonably require.

19 It shall be presumed that all alcoholic liquors acquired
20 or made by any importing distributor or manufacturer have been
21 sold or used by him in this State and are the basis for the tax
22 imposed by this Article unless proven, to the satisfaction of
23 the Department, that such alcoholic liquors are (1) still in
24 the possession of such importing distributor or manufacturer,
25 or (2) prior to the termination of possession have been lost by
26 theft or through unintentional destruction, or (3) that such

1 alcoholic liquors are otherwise exempt from taxation under
2 this Act.

3 If any payment provided for in this Section exceeds the
4 manufacturer's or importing distributor's liabilities under
5 this Act, as shown on an original report, the manufacturer or
6 importing distributor may credit such excess payment against
7 liability subsequently to be remitted to the Department under
8 this Act, in accordance with reasonable rules adopted by the
9 Department. If the Department subsequently determines that all
10 or any part of the credit taken was not actually due to the
11 manufacturer or importing distributor, the manufacturer's or
12 importing distributor's discount shall be reduced by an amount
13 equal to the difference between the discount as applied to the
14 credit taken and that actually due, and the manufacturer or
15 importing distributor shall be liable for penalties and
16 interest on such difference.

17 The Department may require any foreign importer to file
18 monthly information returns, by the 15th day of the month
19 following the month which any such return covers, if the
20 Department determines this to be necessary to the proper
21 performance of the Department's functions and duties under
22 this Act. Such return shall contain such information as the
23 Department may reasonably require.

24 Every manufacturer and importing distributor, except for a
25 manufacturer or importing distributor who is applying for a
26 manufacturer's or importing distributor's license under this

1 Act for the first time or a manufacturer or importing
2 distributor who ~~that~~ in the preceding year had less than
3 \$50,000 of tax liability under this Article, shall also file,
4 with the Department, a bond in an amount not less than \$1,000
5 and not to exceed \$100,000 on a form to be approved by, and
6 with a surety or sureties satisfactory to, the Department.
7 Such bond may be required as a condition to renew a license for
8 subsequent annual license terms if a manufacturer or importing
9 distributor exceeds \$50,000 in tax liability. Such bond shall
10 be conditioned upon the manufacturer or importing distributor
11 paying to the Department all monies becoming due from such
12 manufacturer or importing distributor under this Article. The
13 Department shall fix the penalty of such bond in each case,
14 taking into consideration the amount of alcoholic liquor
15 expected to be sold and used by such manufacturer or importing
16 distributor, and the penalty fixed by the Department shall be
17 sufficient, in the Department's opinion, to protect the State
18 of Illinois against failure to pay any amount due under this
19 Article, but the amount of the penalty fixed by the Department
20 shall not exceed twice the amount of tax liability of a monthly
21 return, nor shall the amount of such penalty be less than
22 \$1,000. The Department shall notify the State Commission of
23 the Department's approval or disapproval of any such
24 manufacturer's or importing distributor's bond, or of the
25 termination or cancellation of any such bond, or of the
26 Department's direction to a manufacturer or importing

1 distributor that he must file additional bond in order to
2 comply with this Section. The Commission shall not renew ~~issue~~
3 a license for ~~to~~ any applicant for a manufacturer's or
4 importing distributor's license if ~~unless~~ the Commission has
5 received a notification from the Department showing that such
6 applicant is required to file and has not filed a satisfactory
7 bond with the Department hereunder and that such bond has not
8 been approved by the Department. Failure by any licensed
9 manufacturer or importing distributor to keep a satisfactory
10 bond in effect with the Department or to furnish additional
11 bond to the Department, when required hereunder by the
12 Department to do so, shall be grounds for the revocation or
13 suspension of such manufacturer's or importing distributor's
14 license by the Commission. If a manufacturer or importing
15 distributor fails to pay any amount due under this Article,
16 his bond with the Department shall be deemed forfeited, and
17 the Department may institute a suit in its own name on such
18 bond.

19 After notice and opportunity for a hearing the State
20 Commission may revoke or suspend the license of any
21 manufacturer or importing distributor who fails to comply with
22 the provisions of this Section. Notice of such hearing and the
23 time and place thereof shall be in writing and shall contain a
24 statement of the charges against the licensee. Such notice may
25 be given by United States registered or certified mail with
26 return receipt requested, addressed to the person concerned at

1 his last known address and shall be given not less than 7 days
2 prior to the date fixed for the hearing. An order revoking or
3 suspending a license under the provisions of this Section may
4 be reviewed in the manner provided in Section 7-10 of this Act.
5 No new license shall be granted to a person whose license has
6 been revoked for a violation of this Section or, in case of
7 suspension, shall such suspension be terminated until he has
8 paid to the Department all taxes and penalties which he owes
9 the State under the provisions of this Act.

10 Every manufacturer or importing distributor who has, as
11 verified by the Department, continuously complied with the
12 conditions of the bond under this Act for a period of 2 years
13 shall be considered to be a prior continuous compliance
14 taxpayer. In determining the consecutive period of time for
15 qualification as a prior continuous compliance taxpayer, any
16 consecutive period of time of qualifying compliance
17 immediately prior to the effective date of this amendatory Act
18 of 1987 shall be credited to any manufacturer or importing
19 distributor.

20 A manufacturer or importing distributor that is a prior
21 continuous compliance taxpayer under this Section and becomes
22 a successor as the result of an acquisition, merger, or
23 consolidation of a manufacturer or importing distributor shall
24 be deemed to be a prior continuous compliance taxpayer with
25 respect to the acquired, merged, or consolidated entity.

26 Every prior continuous compliance taxpayer shall be exempt

1 from the bond requirements of this Act until the Department
2 has determined the taxpayer to be delinquent in the filing of
3 any return or deficient in the payment of any tax under this
4 Act. Any taxpayer who fails to pay an admitted or established
5 liability under this Act may also be required to post bond or
6 other acceptable security with the Department guaranteeing the
7 payment of such admitted or established liability.

8 The Department shall discharge any surety and shall
9 release and return any bond or security deposit assigned,
10 pledged or otherwise provided to it by a taxpayer under this
11 Section within 30 days after: (1) such taxpayer becomes a
12 prior continuous compliance taxpayer; or (2) such taxpayer has
13 ceased to collect receipts on which he is required to remit tax
14 to the Department, has filed a final tax return, and has paid
15 to the Department an amount sufficient to discharge his
16 remaining tax liability as determined by the Department under
17 this Act.

18 (Source: P.A. 100-1171, eff. 1-4-19; 101-37, eff. 7-3-19.)