

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN

H.P. 429 - L.D. 616

**An Act To Allow Certain Wine and Hard Cider Manufacturing Partnerships**

**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

**Whereas,** this legislation must take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period so that it applies to this year's apple harvest; and

**Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec. 1. 28-A MRSA §2, sub-§32-B** is enacted to read:

**32-B. Tenant winery.** "Tenant winery" means a person who has been issued an approved application for an alternating proprietorship from the United States Department of the Treasury, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau authorizing the winery to engage in an alternating proprietorship as defined by federal regulation and is licensed by the bureau to produce wine or hard cider at a manufacturing facility of another winery who is licensed by the bureau.

**Sec. 2. 28-A MRSA §605, first ¶,** as amended by PL 2013, c. 446, §1, is further amended to read:

Except as otherwise provided in this section and section 608, a license or any interest in a license may not be sold, transferred, assigned or otherwise subject to control by any person other than the licensee. If the business, or any interest in the business, in connection with which a licensed activity is conducted is sold, transferred or assigned, the license holder shall immediately send to the bureau the license and a sworn statement showing the name and address of the purchaser. The bureau is not required to refund any portion of the ~~licensee~~ license fee if the license is surrendered before it expires. For the

purposes of this section, neither a tenant brewer who is licensed in accordance with section 1355-A, subsection 6 nor a tenant winery who is licensed in accordance with section 1355-A, subsection 7 is not considered to be subject to the control of the host brewer or host winery, as the case may be, as described in that subsection those subsections, or considered to have been transferred or assigned the license or interest in the license of the host brewer or host winery.

**Sec. 3. 28-A MRSA §1355-A, sub-§7** is enacted to read:

**7. Tenant winery.** Except as otherwise provided, the following provisions apply to a tenant winery license under which the holder of a tenant winery license may produce wine at the manufacturing facility of another winery, referred to in this subsection as "the host winery," licensed by the bureau under subsection 4. This subsection applies to hard cider produced by a manufacturer licensed as a winery or small winery under subsection 4.

A. To be eligible for a tenant winery license, a person must submit an application to the bureau in a manner prescribed by the bureau and hold an approved application for an alternating proprietorship issued by the United States Department of the Treasury, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau that authorizes a tenant winery to use the facilities and equipment of a host winery.

B. A tenant winery is subject to the same requirements regarding manufacture of its product as if the tenant winery conducted its manufacturing on its own premises independently.

C. A tenant winery is not eligible for privileges provided in subsection 2 except for sampling described by paragraph A, subparagraphs (1) and (2).

D. A tenant winery may not produce wine or hard cider for another winery or certificate of approval holder.

E. A tenant winery shall ensure that the tenant winery maintains control of the raw ingredients used to manufacture the tenant winery's product.

F. A license issued under subsection 4 may allow for up to 9 tenant wineries at a time at the manufacturing facility of a host winery.

G. The bureau may require a tenant winery to maintain a record or log indicating which equipment is being used at any time by the tenant winery in the production of wine or hard cider and which employees are working on production of the tenant winery's product.

H. The bureau shall require that reports from a tenant winery be submitted in a manner similar to the manner in which a winery licensed under subsection 4 submits reports. The bureau shall also require a tenant winery to submit copies of reports required of holders of an approved application issued by the United States Department of the Treasury, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau authorizing the tenant winery to engage in an alternating proprietorship.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.