

**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-THIRD SESSION**

**S.F. No. 5493**

(SENATE AUTHORS: HOUSLEY)

DATE  
04/30/2024

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Introduction and first reading  
Referred to Commerce and Consumer Protection

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to liquor; establishing a social district in the city of Stillwater.

1.3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.4 Section 1. **CITY OF STILLWATER; SPECIAL LICENSE.**

1.5 Subdivision 1. Social district; consumption allowed. The city of Stillwater may issue  
1.6 a social district license to any holder of an on-sale license whose on-sale premises is  
1.7 contiguous with the premises of the social district designated in subdivision 2. The license  
1.8 authorizes consumption, but not sales or service, of alcoholic beverages sold by the on-sale  
1.9 licensee within the social district.

1.10 Subd. 2. Designation of social district. (a) Prior to issuing the license in subdivision 1,  
1.11 the city of Stillwater must designate and describe the premises of the social district. The  
1.12 district may not include any area under the ownership or control of a person that objects to  
1.13 the extension of the social district to that area.

1.14 (b) The designation must include the specific premises where consumption of alcoholic  
1.15 beverages is allowed and also include the proposed hours and days in which consumption  
1.16 of alcoholic beverages is allowed in the social district. The city of Stillwater must adopt the  
1.17 designation by ordinance prior to issuing the license in subdivision 1.

1.18 Subd. 3. Boundaries clearly defined. The social district must be clearly defined with  
1.19 signs posted in a conspicuous location indicating the area included in the social district and  
1.20 the days and hours during which alcoholic beverages may be consumed in the district. In  
1.21 addition, signs must include:

2.1 (1) the local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the area comprising the  
2.2 social district; and

2.3 (2) a clear statement that an alcoholic beverage purchased for consumption in the social  
2.4 district shall:

2.5 (i) only be consumed in the social district; and

2.6 (ii) be disposed of before the person in possession of the alcoholic beverage exits the  
2.7 social district unless the person is reentering the licensed premises where the alcoholic  
2.8 beverage was purchased.

2.9 Subd. 4. **Management and maintenance.** The city of Stillwater must establish  
2.10 management and maintenance plans for the social district and post these plans, along with  
2.11 a rendering of the boundaries of the social district and days and hours during which alcoholic  
2.12 beverages may be consumed in the district, on the website for the city of Stillwater. The  
2.13 social district must be maintained in a manner that protects the health and safety of the  
2.14 general public.

2.15 Subd. 5. **Requirements for on-sale licensees.** An on-sale licensee holding a social  
2.16 district license may only sell and serve alcoholic beverages on the premises specified in the  
2.17 licensee's on-sale license. The licensee must not allow a person to enter or reenter its on-sale  
2.18 licensed premises with an alcoholic beverage not sold by the on-sale licensee. Sales for  
2.19 consumption in the social district must meet the following container requirements:

2.20 (1) the container clearly identifies the on-sale licensee from which the alcoholic beverage  
2.21 was purchased;

2.22 (2) the container clearly displays a logo or some other mark that is unique to the social  
2.23 district in which it will be consumed;

2.24 (3) the container is not comprised of glass;

2.25 (4) the container displays, in no less than 12-point font, the statement, "Drink Responsibly  
2.26 - Be 21."; and

2.27 (5) the container shall not hold more than 16 fluid ounces.

2.28 Subd. 6. **Additional social district requirements.** The possession and consumption of  
2.29 an alcoholic beverage in a social district is subject to all of the following requirements:

2.30 (1) only alcoholic beverages purchased from an on-sale licensee holding a social district  
2.31 license located in or contiguous to the social district may be possessed and consumed in the  
2.32 district;

3.1 (2) alcoholic beverages shall only be in containers meeting the requirements set forth  
3.2 in subdivision 5;

3.3 (3) alcoholic beverages shall only be possessed and consumed during the days and hours  
3.4 set by the city of Stillwater as specified in subdivision 2; and

3.5 (4) a person shall dispose of any alcoholic beverage in the person's possession prior to  
3.6 exiting the social district unless the person is reentering the on-sale licensed premises where  
3.7 the alcoholic beverage was purchased.

3.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon approval by the Stillwater City  
3.9 Council and compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021.