



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2011 Assembly Bill 63	Assembly Amendment 1
<i>Memo published:</i> September 19, 2011	<i>Contact:</i> Don Salm, Senior Staff Attorney (266-8540)

CURRENT LAW

Under current law, with limited exceptions, no person may sell alcohol beverages to a consumer unless the seller possesses a license or permit authorizing the sale. A *Class "A"* license authorizes the retail sale of fermented malt beverages (beer), in original packages, for consumption off the licensed premises. A "*Class A*" license authorizes the retail sale of intoxicating liquor, including wine, in original packages, for consumption off the licensed premises. A retailer operating under a Class "A" license may not sell beer between midnight and 8:00 a.m., although a municipality may, by ordinance, impose more restrictive "closing hours" than these. "*Class A*" retail premises may not remain open for the sale of intoxicating liquor between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.

2011 ASSEMBLY BILL 63

2011 Assembly Bill 63 changes the *morning closing hours* for Class "A" and "*Class A*" retailers from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. so that: (1) a *Class "A"* retailer may sell beer from 6:00 a.m. until midnight unless the municipality in which it is located establishes more restrictive closing hours; and (2) a "*Class A*" retailer may sell intoxicating liquor from 6:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1 TO THE BILL

Assembly Amendment 1 permits a municipality, by ordinance, to impose more restrictive hours on a "*Class A*" intoxicating liquor licensed premises than the 9:00 p.m. (closing) to 6:00 a.m. (opening) hours in the bill. *For example*, a municipality could, by ordinance, change the allowed opening hours from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. or 9:00 a.m. This provision parallels the provision currently applicable to Class "A" beer licensed premises (which, as noted above, permits a municipality, by ordinance, to impose more restrictive closing hours than midnight to 8:00 a.m. on Class "A" premises).

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

At an executive session on September 13, 2011, the Assembly Committee on Homeland Security and State Affairs voted to adopt Assembly Amendment 1 (offered by Representative Wynn) on a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0, and voted to recommend passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 5; Noes, 2.

DLS:jb;wu