

HOUSE No. 36

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act modernizing the Massachusetts alcohol laws.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 12 of chapter 138 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out wherever they so appear the words:- “and
3 contiguous”.

4 SECTION 2. Subsection (n) of section 19B of chapter 138 of the General Laws, as so
5 appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the words:- “and contiguous”.

6 SECTION 3. Subsection (n) of section 19C of chapter 138 of the General Laws, as so
7 appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the words:- “and contiguous”.

8 SECTION 4. Subsection (o) of section 19E of chapter 138 of the General Laws, as so
9 appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the words:- “and contiguous”.

10 SECTION 5. Section 19H of chapter 138 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
11 amended, in line 11, by striking the words:- “and contiguous”.

12 SECTION 6. Section 23 of chapter 138, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting
13 after the second paragraph the following paragraph:- No applicant shall be issued a license under
14 this chapter unless such applicant is, with respect to their character, satisfactory to the licensing
15 authorities.

16 SECTION 7. Section 67 of chapter 138 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
17 amended, in line 7, by striking out the word “five” and inserting in place thereof the following
18 words:- ten business.

19 SECTION 8. The fourth paragraph of said section 12 of said chapter 138, as so
20 appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the fourth sentence.

21 SECTION 9. The first paragraph of section 15 of chapter 138 of the General Laws, as
22 most recently amended by chapter 219 of the acts of 2016, is hereby amended by striking out the
23 sixth sentence.