SENATE DOCKET, NO. 3902 FILED ON: 5/7/2026

SENATE . . . . . No. 3112

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Barry R. Finegold

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act authorizing municipalities to opt-in to a temporary pilot to extend the hours of liquor licenses and to allow for public consumption in designated districts in summer 2026.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Barry R. Finegold	*Second Essex and Middlesex*
Julian Cyr	*Cape and Islands*

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SENATE . . . . . No. 3112

By Mr. Finegold, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 3112) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Barry R. Finegold and Julian Cyr for legislation to authorize municipalities to opt-in to a temporary pilot to extend the hours of liquor licenses and to allow for public consumption in designated districts in summer 2026. Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act authorizing municipalities to opt-in to a temporary pilot to extend the hours of liquor licenses and to allow for public consumption in designated districts in summer 2026.

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

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of this section or any other general or special law to the contrary, the local licensing authority in a city or town which votes to authorize the granting of licenses for the sale of an alcoholic beverage may, on a temporary basis not to begin prior to June 1, 2026, allow an establishment licensed to sell alcoholic beverages, wine or malt beverages pursuant to Section 12 of Chapter 138 of the General Laws to sell alcoholic beverages, wine or malt beverages for off-premises consumption in social consumption districts established pursuant to Section 3 of this Act.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any provision of this section or any other general or special law to the contrary, an establishment licensed to sell alcoholic beverages pursuant to Section 12 of Chapter 138 may, subject to approval of the local licensing authority, sell alcoholic beverages or wine or malt beverages on-premises for one additional hour beyond the time set

forth in the establishment's license, but not to exceed 3:00 a.m. for the period of June 1, 2026 until August 31, 2026 subject to any applicable local rules or regulations and any conditions placed upon their license.

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding any provision of this section or any other general or special law to the contrary, a city or town may elect to designate one or more areas in that city or town in which alcoholic beverages are permitted to be consumed in public spaces, subject to such restrictions as the city or town may deem appropriate and only for the period of June 1, 2026 until August 31, 2026.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage and shall expire on August 31, 2026.