NOTICE – AMENDMENT TO R.I. GEN. LAWS § 3-6-1 EFFECTIVE JUNE 28, 2016

The Department of Business Regulation (“Department”) is pleased to announce that on June 28, 2016, Governor Gina Raimondo signed into law H8100 SUB B (Morin) and S3053 SUB A (Sosnowski), codified in the Public Laws in Chapters 198 and 184 respectively.

This change allows Rhode Island breweries and distilleries to sell a limited amount of beer and distilled spirits to consumers for consumption on the licensed manufacturing premises and increases the amount of said beverages allowed for sale to consumers for consumption off the premises.

This law became effective immediately upon the Governor’s signature.

Below is the full text of the change, showing additions in underline and deletions in strikethrough.

Dated this 1st day of July, 2016

Macky McCleary
Director

3-6-1. Manufacturer’s license. — (a) A manufacturer's license authorizes the holder to establish and operate a brewery, distillery, or winery at the place described in the license for the manufacture of beverages within this state. The license does not authorize more than one of the activities of operator of a brewery or distillery or winery and a separate license shall be required for each plant.

(b) The license also authorizes the sale at wholesale at the licensed place by the manufacturer of the product of the licensed plant to another license holder and the transportation and delivery from the place of sale to a licensed place or to a common carrier for that delivery. The license does not authorize the sale of beverages for consumption on premises where sold, provided that the manufacturer does not sell an amount in excess of thirty-six ounces (36 oz.) of malt beverage or four and one-half ounces (4.5 oz.) of distilled spirits per visitor per day, or a combination not greater than three (3) drinks where a drink is defined as twelve ounces (12 oz.) of beer or one and one-half ounces (1.5 oz.) of spirits, for consumption on the premises. The license also authorizes the sale of beverages produced on the premises in an amount not in excess
of two hundred eighty-eight ounces (288 oz.) of malt beverages, or seven hundred fifty milliliters (750 ml) of distilled spirits per visitor per day, to be sold in containers that may hold no more than seventy-two ounces (72 oz.) each. These beverages may be sold to the consumers for off-premise consumption, and shall be sold pursuant to the laws governing retail Class A establishments. The containers for the sale of beverages for off-premises consumption shall be sealed. The license does not authorize the sale of beverages in this state for delivery outside this state in violation of the law of the place of delivery. The license holder may provide to visitors in conjunction with a tour and/or tasting, samples, clearly marked as samples, not to exceed three hundred seventy-five milliliters (375 ml) per visitor for distilled spirits and seventy-two ounces (72 oz) per visitor for malt beverages at the licensed plant by the manufacturer of the product of the licensed plant to visitors for off-premise consumption. The license does not authorize providing samples to a visitor of any alcoholic beverages for off-premise consumption that are not manufactured at the licensed plant.

(c) The annual fee for the license is three thousand dollars ($3,000) for a distillery, five hundred dollars ($500) for a brewery, and one thousand five hundred dollars ($1,500) for a winery producing more than fifty thousand (50,000) gallons per year and five hundred dollars ($500) per year for a winery producing less than fifty thousand (50,000) gallons per year. All those fees are prorated to the year ending December 1 in every calendar year and shall be paid to the division of taxation and be turned over to the general treasurer for the use of the state.