HOUSE RESEARCH

ORGANIZATION bill digest

Sale or dispensation of wine at wine festivals
Licensing and Administrative Procedures — committee substitute recommended
6 ayes — Wilson, Yarbrough, Haggerty, J. Moreno, Palmer, A. Reyna
0 nays
3 absent — Flores, Goolsby, D. Jones
For — Randy Yarbrough, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission
Against — None
CSHB 124 would allow the holder of a winery permit to sell or dispense wine on the holder's premises at an event approved by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC) and for the purpose of promoting the Texas wine industry. The holder of a winery permit could not hold more than four of these events per year.
The holder of a winery permit could sell wine to holders of temporary and special permits, daily temporary permits, and private club permits issued under the Alcoholic Beverage Code.
In areas that prohibit the sale of any type or classification of alcoholic beverage or that prohibit the sale of beverages with more than 14 percent alcohol, the ballot in an election held to legalize such sales would have to permit voting for or against "the legal sale of wine on the premises of a holder of a winery permit."
This bill would take effect September 1, 1999.
The committee substitute made numerous changes to the original bill, including deleting the creation of a farm winery permit, sections on organized wine-tasting competition and wine sampling, and various references to farm wineries throughout the Alcoholic Beverage Code.