DRAFT

FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

Alcohol Direct-Shipping Compliance Act

Uniform Law Commission

March 4, 2021 Video Committee Meeting



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Alcohol Direct-Shipping Compliance Act

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Alcohol Direct-Shipping Compliance Act

Table of Contents

Prefatory Note	l
Section 1. Title	
Section 2. Definitions	2
Section 3. Registration of Logistics Shippers	<i>6</i>
Section 4. Carrier Delivery from Licensed or Registered Shippers	9
Section 5. [Wine][Alcoholic Beverage] Shipment Reports	11
Section 6. State Jurisdiction; Enforcement Powers	15
Section 7. Notice to Carrier of Consignor's Unlawful Shipment; Administrative Order	18
Section 8. Suspension, Revocation, or Nonrenewal of License or Permit for Unlawful	
Shipping	20
Section 9. Penalties	22
Section 10. Rules	24
Section 11. Uniformity of Application and Construction	24
Section 12. Relation to Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act	24
Section 13. Transitional Provision	24
[Section 14. Severability]	25
[Section 15. Repeals; Conforming Amendments]	26
Section 16. Effective Date	26

Alcohol Direct-Shipping Compliance Act

Prefatory Note

Alcoholic beverages enjoy a unique constitutional status, and states have broad power to regulate the alcohol trade. Section 2 of the 21st Amendment empowers states to regulate the "transportation or importation" into the state of intoxicating liquor "for delivery or use therein." The 21st Amendment grants the states "virtually complete control over whether to permit importation or sale of liquor and how to structure the liquor distribution system." *Granholm v. Heald*, 544 U.S. 460, 488-89 (2005) (quoting *California Retail Liquor Dealers Ass'n v. Midcal Aluminum, Inc.*, 445 U.S. 97, 110 (1980)).

In preparing this act, the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (Conference) recognizes that the policy-makers in each state are best suited to determine whether alcoholic beverages should be sold in the state and, if so, under what circumstances or with what restrictions the distribution and sale of alcoholic beverages should occur. The Conference is a state-supported organization comprised of representatives from each state who are appointed by state governments. The Conference was founded on principles of federalism and state autonomy.

At the time this act was prepared, approximately 46 states had chosen to allow some form of direct-to-consumer (DTC) wine shipping by wineries. Some of these states also allow DTC shipping by retailers and by producers of beer and distilled spirits. Most of these states require licensing of DTC shippers, but approximately four do not. The purpose of this act is not to require states to allow DTC shipping of alcoholic beverages or to establish requirements or standards for DTC shipments, but rather to assist states with better mechanisms to stop the unlawful DTC shipments that state policy-makers have chosen not to allow. Unauthorized DTC shipments are often interstate shipments, and the act promotes uniformity and cooperation among states seeking more effective cross-border enforcement of their existing DTC shipping laws.

1	Alcohol Direct-Shipping Compliance Act
2	Section 1. Title
3	This [act] may be cited as the Alcohol Direct Shipping Compliance Act.
4	Section 2. Definitions
5	In this [act]:
6	(1) "Alcoholic beverages" means [any beverage in liquid form that contains at
7	least 0.5 percent alcohol by volume and is intended for human consumption. The term includes
8	beer, wine, and distilled spirits].
9	(2) "Carrier" means a person that:
10	(A) holds itself out to the general public as engaged in the business of
11	transporting goods for a fee; and
12	(B) is engaged in the business of transporting and delivering alcoholic
13	beverages in this state to consumers.
14	(3) ["Commission"] means [this state's alcoholic beverage commission].
15	(4) "Consignor" means the person that provides to a carrier for shipment a
16	package containing alcoholic beverages.
17	(5) "Consumer" means an individual who orders or for whom is ordered [wine]
18	[alcoholic beverages] to be shipped to the individual in this state. The term does not include an
19	individual:
20	(A) who is, or is acting on behalf of, a person holding an alcoholic-
21	beverage license, permit, or similar authorization under which the person is authorized to receive
22	shipments of [wine] [alcoholic beverages] for resale or production purposes; or
23	(B) who orders or for whom is ordered [wine] [alcoholic beverages] sold

1	by a retailer for local delivery.
2	(6) "Direct-shipper license" means a [license, permit, or similar authorization]
3	issued by the [commission] [other applicable authority] authorizing the sale and shipment of
4	[wine] [alcoholic beverages] directly to a consumer.
5	(7) "Electronic" means relating to technology having electrical, digital, magnetic,
6	wireless, optical, electromagnetic, or similar capabilities.
7	(8) "Licensed direct shipper" means a person that holds a direct-shipper license.
8	(9) "Logistics shipper" means a person that acts on behalf of a licensed direct
9	shipper or other seller of [wine] [alcoholic beverages] to ship the [wine] [alcoholic beverages] to
10	a consumer and arranges for transport by carrier of the [wine] [alcoholic beverages] to the
11	consumer. The term includes a person that also provides other fulfillment services such as
12	warehousing and packaging of [wine] [alcoholic beverages].
13	(10) "Person" means an individual, estate, business or nonprofit entity, or other
14	legal entity. The term does not include a public corporation or government or governmental
15	subdivision, agency, or instrumentality.
16	(11) "Record" means information:
17	(A) inscribed on a tangible medium; or
18	(B) stored in an electronic or other medium and retrievable in perceivable
19	form.
20	(12) "Registered logistics shipper" means a logistics shipper registered under
21	Section 3.
22	(13) "State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto
23	Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the

1 jurisdiction of the United States.

2 (14) "Wine" means [an alcoholic beverage containing not more than 24 percent alcohol

- 3 by volume obtained from the normal fermentation of the juice or must of sound, ripe grapes, or other fruit
- 4 or agricultural products. The term includes sparkling and carbonated wine, wine made from condensed
- 5 grape must, vermouth, cider, perry, and sake].

Legislative Note: A state should replace the term "commission" and bracketed agency description in paragraph (3) with the applicable agency reference in the state. This term may need to refer to a county or other governmental unit rather than a state agency.

The state should tailor the bracketed language in paragraphs (6) and (8) to the terminology and direct-shipping authorization applicable under the state's law. Bracketed language also allows the state to adjust the paragraph to reflect whether the authorization is in the form of a license, permit, or registration and whether this authorization is issued by the state or a local governmental unit. The state may prefer to substitute cross-references to the state law authorizing direct shipping to a consumer. The state should tailor paragraphs (5), (6), (8), and (9) to reflect whether, under state law, the provisions should be limited to wine shipping or apply to shipments of any alcoholic beverages.

The bracketed language in paragraphs (8) and (14) are optional because the state may prefer to use its definitions.

Comment

States take a variety of approaches to direct-to-consumer shipping. Approximately 46 states authorize wineries to ship wine directly to consumers. About 15 states allow retailers to ship directly to consumers. Some states allow producers and retailers to ship any type of alcoholic beverage (wine, beer, or distilled spirits) directly to consumers. All of these states except approximately four require licensing to ship directly to the state's consumers. The enacting state's approach to enforcement will depend in part on what types of shipments are considered lawful, so the act is drafted to recognize this variation in both the types of direct shipping licenses states issue and the types of alcoholic beverages that may be lawfully shipped to consumers. The act's definition of "licensed direct shipper" is intended to fit within the enacting state's existing framework; the term "person" in this definition might be limited to a winery in some states, or also include a retailer or other producers in other states, depending on whether the state authorizes only direct-to-consumer shipping of wine by wineries or authorizes other direct-to-consumer shipping as well. This concept is embedded in the definition of "licensed direct shipper" through its use of the defined term "direct-shipper license."

The term "consumer" is used repeatedly throughout the act. It is worth emphasizing that a consumer is an individual located in the state of enactment. The consumer is the consignee of the shipment, the addressee or intended recipient of the package containing the wine or alcoholic

beverages. The consumer will usually be the individual who purchases the product and has it shipped to him or her. However, if the product is ordered by someone as a gift for another, the consumer will be the intended recipient of the gift rather than the purchaser. In Section 5, the act recognizes that, as with other packages delivered by a carrier, many states allow the package containing wine or alcoholic beverages to be received and signed for by another of-age person, such as a spouse at the consumer's residence or a receptionist at the consumer's place of business. Under the act, the consumer is the addressee or *intended* recipient of the package even if the *actual* recipient of the package is a third-party who signs the carrier's delivery slip on behalf of the consumer.

Most states restrict direct-to-consumer shipping to shipments for the recipient's personal use, and the act clarifies that a consumer does not include, for example, an individual who receives the shipment as an employee of a retailer or rectifier or otherwise as part of the three-tier system. The term "consumer" is also defined to exclude individuals who order wine or alcoholic beverages for local delivery, as opposed to shipment. Many states have now authorized retailers to make online sales followed by local delivery, both directly and through third-party apps and services, and the act is not intended to apply to these transactions that are made through the three-tier system and typically involve nearly simultaneous purchase and delivery.

 The term "logistics shipper" means, in effect, the consignor or sender of a shipment if the shipment is arranged with the carrier by a third-party and not by the seller, the "licensed shipper." Usually the logistics shipper will be a fulfillment provider that warehouses, packs, and ships the product for the licensed shipper, but providing storage and packaging services is not a requirement for being considered a logistics shipper subject to the provisions of the act. The act's reference in the definition to shipments on behalf of a licensed shipper "or other seller" does not mean that an unlicensed seller is allowed to make shipments to consumers. Rather, this definitional language is intended to prevent a logistics shipper from avoiding the registration requirement by claiming it does not ship on behalf of licensed shippers. The phrase "or other seller" means only that a person is subject to the act's requirements as a "logistics shipper" if the person ships wine or alcoholic beverages into the state on behalf of another, regardless of whether the person ships on behalf of licensed or unlicensed sellers.

Regarding the term "carrier," the definition is in part similar to the definition of "common carrier" under 15 U.S.C. Section 375 relating to cigarette taxes and the definition under South Dakota statute section 35-12B-1. The definition of "carrier" is intended to be much narrower than "common carrier," focusing only on common carriers that deliver direct-to-consumer shipments of wine or other alcoholic beverages to individuals. The definition excludes motor carriers, water carriers, and railroads that transport wine or alcoholic beverages into and within the state as part of the three-tier system (that is, to other businesses in the alcoholic beverage industry). The act allows, but does not require, the carrier to have the consignor identify whether the package containing alcohol is being sent to a licensee (that is, distributed through the three-tier system) or to a consumer. Only consumer shipments must be reported under Section 5 of the act. A carrier engaged in the business of transporting and delivering to consumers only wine and no other alcoholic beverages meets the standard under paragraph (2) (B) because wine is an alcoholic beverage.

1 Regarding the term "Commission," the name of the department or agency responsible for 2 administering the state's alcoholic beverage laws varies from state to state. Common agency 3 names include the Alcoholic Beverage Commission, Department of Revenue, Liquor Control 4 Commission, and others. A list of agency appellations is available on the website of the U.S. 5 Treasury's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB), 6 https://www.ttb.gov/wine/alcohol-beverage-control-boards#US. The act uses the term 7 "Commission" as the default because it is the most common agency name. 8 9 The definition of "wine" is derived from elements of federal law. See 27 U.S.C. Section 10 211 (a)(6); 27 C.F.R 4.10. See also 26 U.S.C. Sections 5381, 5392. Each state has an existing definition of wine, and the states' definitions sometimes vary from each other and from federal 11 definitions. For example, under federal law, fortified wine remains wine until it exceeds 24 12 13 percent alcohol by volume (ABV) or more than half of the product's alcohol is derived from 14 added spirits rather than fermentation, but many states define wine as limited to products 15 containing not more than 21 percent ABV. The definition of "alcoholic beverages" is derived in 16 part from the definition in 27 C.F.R. 16.10 (defining alcoholic beverage for the purpose of health warning labels). The enacting state may also have its own definition of "alcoholic beverages" 17 18 that could be substituted for this definition. 19 20 Section 3. Registration of Logistics Shippers 21 (a) A logistics shipper must register with the [commission] before shipping [wine] 22 [alcoholic beverages] into or within this state. 23 (b) Subject to subsection (c), an application for registration as a logistics shipper must be 24 in the form prescribed by the [commission] and include: 25 (1) each address from which the logistics shipper will ship [wine] [alcoholic 26 beverages] to a consumer; 27 (2) the name, address, and direct-shipper-license-number of each licensed direct 28 shipper on whose behalf the logistics shipper will ship [wine] [alcoholic beverages] to a 29 consumer; and (3) other information the [commission] determines is necessary to implement this 30 31 [act]. 32 (c) To register under this section, a logistics shipper must agree to:

(1) appoint and maintain under Section 6(d) an agent for service of process and to

1	accept service of process through the agent;
2	(2) provide access under Section 6(b) to or copies of its records and allow the
3	[commission] to conduct an audit under Section 6(b) of its records and an inspection under
4	Section 6(c) of its premises; and
5	(3) submit to the jurisdiction of the [commission], the courts, and other
6	enforcement authority of this state with respect to enforcement of this [act] and other law of this
7	state regulating the shipment of alcoholic beverages directly to individuals in this state.
8	(d) A logistics shipper registered under this section shall provide [monthly] to the
9	[commission], in the form prescribed by the [commission], an updated list of all licensed direct
10	shippers on whose behalf the logistics shipper ships [wine] [alcoholic beverages] to consumers.
11	The list must include the name stated, if possible, as it appears on the direct-shipper license,
12	address, and direct-shipper-license-number of each licensed direct shipper.
13	(e) A logistics shipper may not ship [wine] [alcoholic beverages] to a consumer unless:
14	(1) the registration of the logistics shipper is not suspended, revoked, or canceled
15	under subsection (f) or (g);
16	(2) the [wine was] [alcoholic beverages were] supplied to the logistics shipper by
17	a licensed direct shipper; and
18	(3) the package containing the [wine] [alcoholic beverages] clearly indicates:
19	(A) on the shipping label, the name and applicable address of the logistics
20	shipper, as they appear in the registration under this section, as consignor and the name and address of the
21	consumer as the intended recipient; and
22	(B) on the package or shipping label, the name and direct-shipper-license-
23	number of the licensed direct shipper that supplied to the logistics shipper the [wine] [alcoholic

1 beverages] contained in the package.

(f) The [commission], after notice and an opportunity for an evidentiary hearing, may suspend, revoke, or impose conditions on the registration of a logistics shipper for good cause, including for any violation specified in Section 9(a) or (b).

(g) A registered logistics shipper may cancel its registration, in the manner prescribed by the [commission], if an enforcement proceeding against the registered logistics shipper is not pending. Cancellation of the registration does not affect the [commission]'s jurisdiction with respect to activity that occurred before the cancellation. If an enforcement proceeding is pending against a registered logistics shipper, the logistics shipper may cancel its registration only with the consent of the [commission].

(h) Use by a licensed direct shipper of the services of a registered logistics shipper does not relieve the licensed direct shipper of a requirement imposed on it under [cite to applicable law of the state].

Legislative Note: This section requires a registered logistics shipper to identify to the Commission each licensed direct shipper on whose behalf it makes shipments. The state may choose to amend its law to also require each licensed direct shipper to notify the Commission of all logistics shippers it has engaged to make shipments on its behalf. The state may need to clarify in its law that a licensed direct shipper may engage the services of a registered logistics shipper in making a shipment to a consumer.

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In subsection (d), "monthly" is bracketed because the state may prefer an alternative period, such as quarterly or as specified for the logistics shipper's reporting period under Section 5.

Comment

A significant amount of direct-to-consumer shipping of alcoholic beverages is accomplished by means of an intermediary, usually referred to as a logistics shipper or fulfillment provider. Few states require licensing or registration of such intermediaries, but the use of such an intermediary makes it difficult for state regulators to identify the originator of the alcoholic beverage shipment. This act provides a mechanism under which state regulators can better identify what alcoholic beverages are being shipped into the state and by whom. The act does not establish standards or requirements for these shipments. The enacting state's existing law will govern such matters as licensing requirements for direct shippers (such as wineries,

retailers, or other producers) authorized to ship to consumers in the state. The bracketed terms "wine" or "alcoholic beverages" allow the state to tailor the provision depending on whether the state authorizes direct-to-consumer shipments of wine only or also allows direct-to-consumer shipments of other alcoholic beverages. In addition to direct shipper licensing, the enacting state's existing law will govern the applicable restrictions on shipments, such as quantity limits, as well as requirements for shipment and delivery, such as package marking and age verification. The enacting state's law will require compliance by the licensed direct shipper, whether that shipment is accomplished directly or with help from a logistics shipper. This act assists state regulators in establishing the identity of both the seller of a package containing alcoholic beverages and the logistics shipper acting on its behalf.

A central aspect of this act is ensuring that the enacting state can establish jurisdiction over out-of-state actors. Subsection (c) is included in the act, in addition to Section 6, to create stronger support for the enacting state's authority to assert jurisdiction. Subsection (c) requires the actor to agree to the state's jurisdiction, rather than relying only on a statutory assertion of jurisdiction. It is contemplated that the agreement will take the form of a check-box on the registration application.

Subsection (f) allows the enacting state to suspend or revoke a logistics shipper's registration for good cause, including violations of the act. The subsection also allows the state to opt for a less severe punishment by imposing a condition on the registration, such as requiring additional employee training.

The act does not specifically require a contract between a logistics shipper and the licensed direct shipper on whose behalf it arranges shipments, but it is likely there will be such a contract defining the parties' respective responsibilities and liabilities. The act also does not expressly refer to the logistics shipper as the "agent" of the licensed direct shipper, although the parties' contract might.

Section 4. Carrier Delivery from Licensed or Registered Shippers

- (a) Subject to subsections (b) and (c), a carrier may not deliver to a consumer a package that the consignor has identified as containing alcoholic beverages unless:
 - (1) the consignor is a licensed direct shipper, and the carrier maintains a record of the direct-shipper license for the current license period; or
 - (2) the consignor is a registered logistics shipper and the carrier maintains a record of the logistics shipper's registration under Section 3.
 - (b) A carrier that verifies that a direct shipper has a direct-shipper license for the current license period may consider the license to be valid for the remainder of the license period unless

- the carrier receives notice from the [commission] [other applicable authority] that the license has
- been suspended[,] revoked[, [or otherwise terminated]. A carrier that verifies that a logistics
- 3 shipper is registered under Section 3 may consider the registration to be valid unless the carrier
- 4 receives notice from the [commission] that the registration has been suspended, revoked, or
- 5 canceled. [A carrier may consider an expired direct-shipper license to be valid if the
- 6 [commission] [other applicable authority] has delayed processing the renewal of direct-shipper
- 7 licenses.]
- 8 (c) Subsection (a) does not limit the restrictions under Section (3)(e) or under other law
- 9 of this state regulating the shipment or delivery of alcoholic beverages directly to individuals in
- 10 this state.
 - Legislative Note: In subsection (b), there is an option as to whether there is other terminology in addition to suspension or revocation.

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Include the final, bracketed sentence of subsection (b) if the state chooses to allow licensed activity to continue during administrative disruptions in the license renewal process, such as during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Comment

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This section creates requirements related to the carrier's activities in the enacting state. As discussed previously, a consumer is an individual in the enacting state and both a licensed direct shipper and registered logistics shipper are businesses authorized by the enacting state to ship into the enacting state. The provision therefore regulates the carrier only in the enacting state, where the delivery would otherwise occur.

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After a carrier has verified that a consignor either holds a direct-shipper license valid for the applicable license period or has a logistics shipper's registration, the carrier is not required to continually confirm that the license or registration hasn't been suspended or revoked. However, if the carrier receives notice that the license or registration has been suspended or revoked, the carrier cannot thereafter consider the license or registration as valid.

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As discussed in Section 2, approximately four states allow direct-to-consumer shipping without requiring licensing of the shipper. In these few states, Section 4 will need to be modified.

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[Drafting committee note regarding subsection (c): A concern was raised that the alternative conditions set forth in subsection (a)(1) and (2) might be considered exhaustive; in

2 3	other words, the only condition, leading subsection (a) to override other provisions of law. The committee has yet to discuss whether subsection (c) is necessary.]
4	Section 5. [Wine][Alcoholic Beverage] Shipment Reports
5	(a) Except as provided in subsection (e), a registered logistics shipper shall file with the
6	[commission] [monthly] a report that includes:
7	(1) the name, business address, and registration number of the logistics shipper;
8	(2) the total [gallons] [liters] of [wine] [each type of alcoholic beverage] shipped
9	to consumers by the logistics shipper during the reporting period, identified by the state's
10	applicable tax classification; and
11	(3) for each shipment to a consumer during the reporting period:
12	(A) the name, business address, and direct-shipper-license-number of the
13	licensed direct shipper on whose behalf the logistics shipper shipped the [wine] [alcoholic
14	beverages], with the name stated, if possible, as it appears on the direct-shipper license;
15	(B) the name and address of the consumer to whom the [wine was]
16	[alcoholic beverages were] shipped and, if different, the name and address of the recipient;
17	(C) the address from which the logistics shipper originated the shipment,
18	stated identically with an address provided by the logistics shipper under Section 3(b)(1);
19	(D) the date the shipment was delivered to the consumer or other recipient;
20	(E) the type, brand label, and quantity by volume of [wine] [alcoholic
21	beverages] shipped; and
22	(F) the name and business address of the carrier that delivered the [wine]
23	[alcoholic beverages] and the carrier's parcel tracking number for the shipment.
24	[(b) Except as provided in subsection (e), a licensed direct shipper shall file with the
25	[commission] [monthly] a report that includes:

1	(1) the name, business address, and direct-shipper-license-number of the licensed
2	direct shipper;
3	(2) the total [gallons] [liters] of [wine] [each type of alcoholic beverage] shipped
4	to consumers during the reporting period, identified by the state's applicable tax classification;
5	and
6	(3) for each shipment to a consumer during the reporting period:
7	(A) the name and address of the consumer to whom the [wine was]
8	[alcoholic beverages were] shipped and, if different, the name and address of the recipient;
9	(B) the date the shipment was delivered;
10	(C) the type, brand label, and quantity by volume of [wine] [alcoholic
11	beverages] shipped;
12	(D) the purchase price of the [wine] [alcoholic beverages] shipped and the
13	amount and type of each tax charged in connection with the [wine] [alcoholic beverages];
14	(E) if the [wine was] [alcoholic beverages were] shipped for the licensed
15	direct shipper by a logistics shipper, the name, business address, and registration number of the
16	logistics shipper, with the name stated, if possible, as it appears on the logistics shipper's
17	registration; and
18	(F) if the [wine was] [alcoholic beverages were] delivered by a carrier, the
19	name and business address of the carrier and the carrier's parcel tracking number for the
20	shipment.]
21	[(c) Except as provided in subsection (e), a carrier shall file with the [commission]
22	[monthly] a report that includes:
23	(1) the name and business address of the carrier;

1	(2) a list containing the name, business address, and direct-shipper-license-
2	number or logistics-shipper-registration-number of each licensed direct shipper and logistics
3	shipper with which the carrier has an agreement to ship alcoholic beverages, with the name
4	stated, if possible, as it appears on the direct-shipper license or logistics shipper registration; and
5	(3) for each shipment to a consumer during the reporting period for which the
6	consignor declared the package being shipped to contain alcoholic beverages:
7	(A) the name and business address of the consignor of the shipment;
8	(B) the name and address of the consumer and, if different, the name and
9	address of the recipient of the shipment;
10	(C) the date the package was delivered by the carrier;
11	(D) the weight, in pounds, of the package; and
12	(E) the carrier's parcel tracking number for the shipment.]
13	(d) The [commission] shall prescribe the form for filing a report under this section and the
14	deadline for filing the report. The [commission] may require the report to be filed electronically. The
15	[commission] may require a person filing the report to submit additional information, including
16	business records, to substantiate information included in the report.
17	(e) If no business was transacted in this state during the reporting period, a report under
18	this section must include the information under subsection $[(a)(1)][(a)(1)$ or $[(b)(1)][(a)(1)$ or
19	(c)(1)] $(a)(1)$, $(b)(1)$, or $(c)(1)$] and otherwise report that no business was transacted in this state
20	during the reporting period.
21	(f) Except as provided in subsection (g), a report filed under this section, and information
22	obtained from the report, is confidential and exempt from public inspection or disclosure.
23	(g) The [commission] may disclose a report or information from a report:

1 (1) as provided in Section 6(e); 2 (2) if reasonably necessary to enforce or implement this [act] or other law of this 3 state relating to the shipment of alcoholic beverages directly to individuals in this state; or 4 (3) as a compilation of aggregated data, if personally identifiable information is 5 not disclosed. 6 **Legislative Note:** If a state requires a licensed direct shipper or carrier to file a report with the 7 state regulator, the state may choose to amend the requirement to add the information under 8 subsections (b) or (c) and omit that subsection. 9 10 The reporting period in subsections (a), (b), and (c) is bracketed as optional. The state may 11 prefer an alternative reporting period, such as quarterly. However, the volume of carrier 12 reports, in particular, may be such that monthly or more frequent reporting is preferable. 13 14 The bracketed material in subsection (e) requires a choice based on which options are 15 selected on subsections (b) and (c).

To accomplish the confidentiality under subsections (f) and (g), the state may need to amend its public records law.

Comment

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The act requires reporting of certain critical pieces of information that assist state regulators in determining whether shipments into the enacting state are originating from a licensed or unlicensed direct shipper. If the carrier reports the package tracking number, the direct shipper reports the package tracking number and its direct-shipper-license-number, and (if applicable) the logistics shipper reports the package tracking number and the name and license number of the direct shipper on whose behalf it is shipping, the state regulator can "triangulate" information to determine whether the shipment originated from a licensed direct shipper. That is, the absence of a tracking number match with an associated directshipper-license-number indicates a possible unlicensed shipment. This information is particularly helpful if reports are filed electronically and included in a searchable database.

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The act requires a registered logistics shipper, licensed direct shipper, and carrier to report some of the same information. As discussed, cross-reporting of information is intended to assist the state regulator in analyzing shipping into the enacting state. Although the act requires a carrier to report only the weight of the package and the licensed direct shipper and logistics shipper to report the contents of the package, this information can be cross-referenced to ascertain whether the package weight is consistent with the reported contents or whether the direct shipper appears to be underreporting shipments (and tax obligations).

State regulators also have difficulty matching information among reports if the same information is reported in an inconsistent manner. For example, if a direct shipper is licensed as "Three Lakes Winery, Inc." but the registered logistics shipper reports the direct shipper as "3 Lakes," the regulator may be uncertain whether it is the same company. The act requires names to be reported, if possible, as they appear on a license or registration maintained with the enacting state. The reporting entity may obtain this information by requesting a copy of the applicable license or registration certificate or, in a state that makes such information publicly available, by checking the state's database. This requirement for precision in reporting a name is not intended to preclude the reporting entity from using a trade name (DBA) identified in a license or registration, but the DBA must be stated with accuracy on each report.

As discussed in Section 2, the act recognizes that the consumer (the consignee / addressee of the package) may not be available at the time of delivery and that the package might be received and signed for by another individual. If this occurs, subsections (a)(3)(B), (b)(4)(A), and (c)(3)(B) require reports to also include the name and address of the actual recipient of the package.

The act requires reporting by a common carrier that delivers alcoholic beverages in the enacting state to a consumer. The act does not require carriers to report alcoholic beverage shipments to licensed industry participants receiving the package through the three-tier system. Although the act does not include a requirement for carriers to identify packages designated for consumers, the carrier may choose to require consignors to declare (perhaps through a check-box) whether the consignee is a consumer or a licensee.

Many states already require licensed direct shippers and carriers to report information similar to the information required under this section. If this is the case in the enacting state, the enacting state may wish to add elements of this section to its existing requirements to ensure that state regulators are able to make full use of the reported information.

The act includes a minimal reporting requirement if there was no reportable activity during the reporting period. State regulators will therefore be able to distinguish between lack of activity and non-compliance (failure to receive a report). The act includes a presumption of monthly reporting, but the enacting state may prefer a different reporting period or a variable reporting period, with, for example, a high-volume shipper reporting monthly and a lower-volume shipper reporting quarterly.

The act requires reports to include detailed and potentially sensitive personal and proprietary information, such as a consumer's name and address and the brand and quantity of wine or alcoholic beverages purchased. Subsection (f) requires the state regulator to maintain confidentiality of these reports and exempts them from disclosure under the state's public records law, subject to the limited exceptions under subsection (g).

Section 6. State Jurisdiction; Enforcement Powers

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(a) A registered logistics shipper[,] [and] [licensed direct shipper][,] [and carrier] [is]

- [are] subject to the jurisdiction of the [commission], the courts, and other enforcement authority
 of this state with respect to the enforcement of this [act] and other law of this state regulating the
- 3 shipment of alcoholic beverages directly to individuals in this state.
- 4 (b) The [commission] may inspect and audit the records of a registered logistics shipper[,] [and]
- 5 [licensed direct shipper][,] [and carrier] relevant to compliance with this [act] and other law of this
- 6 state regulating the shipment of alcoholic beverages directly to individuals in this state. A
- 7 registered logistics shipper[.] [and] [licensed direct shipper][,] [and carrier] shall allow the
- 8 [commission] to inspect and audit its records and, at the [commission]'s request in a record,
- 9 provide complete and accurate records to the [commission] at a location specified by the
- 10 [commission] not later than [10] business days after the request.
 - (c) The [commission] may inspect, during ordinary hours of operation, any location from which
- 12 a registered logistics shipper [licensed direct shipper, or carrier] conducts its business to assess
- compliance with this [act] and other law of this state regulating the shipment of alcoholic
- beverages directly to individuals in this state.

- (d) A registered logistics shipper[, a licensed direct shipper, and a carrier] shall appoint,
- on a form prescribed by the [commission], and continuously maintain, an agent for service of
- process. The agent need not be located in this state. By appointing an agent under this
- subsection, the registered logistics shipper[, licensed direct shipper, or carrier] affirms that the
- agent consents to accept service. Service of process on the agent constitutes valid service of
- process on the registered logistics shipper, licensed direct shipper, or carrier in an action or
- 21 proceeding arising out of the enforcement of this [act] or other law of this state regulating the
- shipment of alcoholic beverages directly to individuals in this state. If a registered logistics
- shipper[, licensed direct shipper, or carrier] fails to maintain, in the records of the [commission],

a current agent for service of process or if the current agent cannot be served with reasonable diligence, the [commission] is deemed the agent for service of process. (e) The [commission] may disclose a report, record, or other information in its possession for a regulatory or enforcement purpose, including a suspected violation or an administrative order issued under Section 7, to: (1) a state agency or law enforcement agency of this state [or a local agency in this state with regulatory authority over matters relating to alcoholic beverages]; (2) a local or state agency in another state with regulatory authority over matters relating to alcoholic beverages or a law enforcement agency of another state; and (3) a federal agency with regulatory authority over matters relating to alcoholic beverages or a federal law enforcement agency. Legislative Note: Optional bracketed language in this section allows the state to impose requirements on a licensed direct shipper or carrier if the state's law does not already include a similar provision. Include the bracketed language in subsection (e)(1) if political subdivisions in the state share authority with a state agency in regulating alcoholic beverages. **Comment** Many states require licensed direct shippers to consent to jurisdiction, appoint an agent

Many states require licensed direct shippers to consent to jurisdiction, appoint an agent for service of process, provide records upon request, and allow audits and inspections. Similar requirements may also apply to carriers, although carriers by definition conduct physical operations (package delivery) within the territorial limits of the state so jurisdiction is evident.

Subsection (a) asserts the enacting state's jurisdiction over registered logistics shippers, whether located in the enacting state or another state, and further asserts jurisdiction over licensed direct shippers and carriers if the optional language is included. (This jurisdictional provision is not necessary for an entity with significant in-state operations, like a carrier or instate direct shipper.) Subsection (a) operates in conjunction with Section 3(c)(4) to ensure that out-of-state logistics shippers registered to ship alcoholic beverages to the enacting state's consumers are subject to jurisdiction in the enacting state. Subsection (a) does not assert jurisdiction over a person that is not licensed or registered in the enacting state and is not regularly operating within the enacting state. Whether the enacting state has jurisdiction over an unlicensed or unregistered "bad actor" unlawfully shipping into the state will be determined on a

fact-specific basis under the state's long-arm statute in light of constitutional due process considerations, such as whether the bad actor has "minimum contacts" with the state. *See Burger King Corp. v. Rudzewicz*, 471 U.S. 462 (1985); *Int'l Shoe Co. v. Washington*, 362 U.S. 310 (1945).

Subsection (e) allows the state regulator in the enacting state to share information with regulators in other states, and with other officials in the same state and federal officials. This provision allows states to easily cooperate to stop unlawful interstate shipping. Although Section 5(f) generally makes reports related to direct-to-consumer shipping confidential, an exception in Section 5(g) allows these reports or information from the reports to be shared as provided in subsection (e).

The enforcement provisions of Section 6 apply with respect to all alcoholic beverages. Even if the enacting state limits authorized shipping to wine only, the state has a strong interest in detecting and stopping unlawful shipments of any type of alcoholic beverage.

Section 2 defines a record to include electronic materials.

Section 7. Notice to Carrier of Consignor's Unlawful Shipment; Administrative

Order

- (a) If the [commission] has reason to believe that alcoholic beverages have been shipped unlawfully into or within this state, the [commission] may give notice to the consignor requiring the consignor to show cause why shipments by the consignor into or within this state should not be prohibited by administrative order. If the [commission], after an opportunity for an evidentiary hearing, determines that the consignor shipped alcoholic beverages into or within this state unlawfully, the [commission] may issue an administrative order prohibiting additional shipments by the consignor of alcoholic beverages into or within this state.
- (b) The [commission] may give notice to a carrier of the administrative order under subsection (a). Except as provided in subsection (d), beginning 15 days after the date of the notice, and until the carrier receives notice that the administrative order is rescinded, the carrier may not accept from the consignor identified in the notice, for shipment into or within this state, a package identified as containing alcoholic beverages.

(c) For good cause, the [commission] may rescind an administrative order issued under
subsection (a). On rescinding an administrative order, the [commission] shall give notice of the
rescission to each carrier that received notice of the administrative order under subsection (b).

- (d) The [commission] may not hold a hearing under subsection (a) less than 30 days after the date of the notice requiring the consignor to show cause unless:
 - (1) the consignor agrees to an earlier hearing date; or
- 7 (2) the notice describes with particularity how the consignor's alleged unlawful shipments pose a serious risk to public health or safety.
 - (e) If the notice includes a description under subsection (d)(2) and the [commission] issues an administrative order:
 - (1) the administrative order must identify the risk to public health or safety; and
 - (2) the [commission's] notice to a carrier under subsection (b) must advise the carrier to implement the administrative order as soon as possible.
 - (f) An administrative order issued under this section is subject to judicial review under [cite to state administrative procedure act].

16 Comment

This section provides an enforcement mechanism to aid the enacting state in stopping unlawful alcohol shipping into or within the state, particularly by unlicensed shippers. The advantage of this mechanism is that it involves an administrative proceeding rather than a court action. If the state regulator detects an unlawful shipment of alcoholic beverages into or within the state, the state regulator may give notice to the consignor to show cause why shipments from the consignor should not be enjoined. After affording the consignor an opportunity for an evidentiary hearing, the state regulator may determine that the consignor has unlawfully shipped alcoholic beverages into or within the enacting state and issue an administrative order prohibiting additional shipments of alcoholic beverages into or within the state by the consignor. The state regulator may give notice of the administrative order to any carrier, whether it be the carrier that delivered the unlawful shipment or other carriers in the state. Beginning 15 days after this notice, the carrier may not accept from the consignor identified in the notice any package identified as containing alcohol, except that this 15-day period is shortened if the consignor's shipments pose a serious risk to public health or safety. The act neither limits carriers to accepting packages from

only an authorized list of shippers, nor prohibits carriers from accepting packages from an everchanging list of banned consignors. The notice to a carrier under the act is specific to a single consignor and permanent unless the carrier receives a subsequent notice that the administrative order has been rescinded.

Under Section 3, if a registered logistics shipper unlawfully ships wine or alcoholic beverages into or within the enacting state, the regulator may suspend or revoke the logistics shipper's registration and the logistics shipper may not thereafter ship wine or alcoholic beverages into or within the state. The act presumes that the enacting state's existing law provides similar authority to suspend or revoke a direct-shipper license if the licensed direct shipper unlawfully ships wine or alcoholic beverages into or within the state. The most significant aspect of this section is to provide state regulators with an enforcement tool when there is no registration or license to take action against. Nonetheless, a state regulator could pursue an administrative order under this section against a consignor that is a registered logistics shipper or licensed direct shipper, including pursing an administrative order in tandem with a proceeding to suspend or revoke the logistics shipper registration or direct-shipper license.

Most states have enacted a general prohibition making it unlawful to ship alcoholic beverages into the state unless the shipper is authorized to do so. In some states, the statute prohibits any person from shipping alcoholic beverages into the state except to a licensed wholesaler, with an exception recognized for certain licensed direct-to-consumer shippers. Other states specifically prohibit direct-to-consumer shipments unless the shipper holds a specified direct-shipper license. (Approximately four states allow direct-to-consumer shipments with no required license.) This act presumes, and relies on, the enacting state's existing general prohibition and does not include a blanket ban on unlicensed direct-to-consumer shipments.

Section 8. Suspension, Revocation, or Nonrenewal of License or Permit for Unlawful Shipping

- (a) [Subject to subsection (b),] the [commission] [or other applicable authority], after notice and an opportunity for an evidentiary hearing, may suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew a license, permit, or other authorization to produce, distribute, or sell alcoholic beverages issued by the [commission] [or other applicable authority] if the person holding the license, permit, or authorization has shipped alcoholic beverages into another state in violation of that state's law.
- [(b) The [commission] [or other applicable authority] may not suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew a license, permit, or authorization issued by the [commission] [or other applicable authority] under subsection (a) unless the licensee, permittee, or authorized person ships

alcoholic beverages into another state in violation of that state's law after the [commission] [or other applicable authority] issues a cease and desist [order] [letter].]

[(c) The [commission] [or other applicable authority] shall determine the duration of a

suspension under subsection (a). The suspension may not exceed [60] days for a first violation or [120] days for a subsequent violation within [three] years. If the [commission] [or other

applicable authority] revokes a license, permit, or other authorization under subsection (a), the

licensee, permittee, or authorized person may not reapply for issuance of the same license,

permit, or authorization for [one] year after the date of the revocation.]

(d) A suspension, revocation, or refusal to renew a license, permit, or other authorization under this section is subject to judicial review under [cite to state administrative procedure act].

[(e) Instead of suspending, revoking, or refusing to renew a license, permit, or other authorization under subsection (a), the [commission] [or other applicable authority] and the licensee, permittee, or authorized person may agree to [an offer in compromise under which the licensee, permittee, or authorized person pays to the [commission] [or other applicable authority]] a civil penalty.]

[(f) After the [commission] [or other applicable authority] has given notice initiating a proceeding under subsection (a) to suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew a license, permit, or other authorization, the licensee, permittee, or authorized person may not surrender the license, permit, or authorization without the consent of the [commission] [or other applicable authority].]

Legislative Note: If existing law governs suspension, revocation, or nonrenewal of alcoholic beverage licenses or permits, the state may choose to amend that law.

Include in this section each license- issuing authority in the state.

The bracketed clause in subsection (e) allows the state to refer to the settlement process by the term "offer in compromise" used by many states and the federal Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau.

The brackets in subsection (c) indicate that the maximum period of suspension and minimum period of revocation may be adjusted to reflect the state's preferences.

In subsection (b), the state may insert the term order rather than letter if it prefers a more formal cease-and-desist process.

Comment

 This section allows the enacting state to, for example, take action against a retailer licensed in the enacting state if the retailer is unlawfully shipping alcohol into another state in violation of that state's law. A retailer that does so risks losing its retail license in its home state. The provision facilitates cooperation among state regulators, as the retailer's unlawful shipping is likely to come to light as a result of information provided by regulators in other states. The retailer's home state must afford the retailer due process in any action taken against the retailer.

Each state issues various forms of alcoholic beverage licenses or permits. There may also be more than one issuing authority in the enacting state. For example, the state may issue licenses to producers, but local governments may issue licenses to retailers or wholesalers. Each state has some form of existing process and standards for the suspension, revocation, or nonrenewal of alcoholic beverage licenses or permits. Accordingly, at least some portion of this section is likely to already be covered by the enacting state's law.

While subsection (c) includes a three-year "look back" period in counting prior violations, many states place no limit on the "look back" period. Regarding subsections (b) and (e), some states provide for a cease-and-desist "warning" process and allow settlement of violations through an offer-in-compromise process and some do not. Regarding subsection (f), the enacting state may already preclude a licensee from surrendering a license while an administrative enforcement proceeding is pending unless the license-issuing authority consents to the surrender.

Section 9. Penalties

- (a) A logistics shipper that violates Section 3(e)(1) or (2) is subject to a civil penalty, for each violation, of not more than \$[1,000] for a first violation and not more than \$[5,000] for a subsequent violation within [three] years.
- (b) A carrier that violates Section 4 or Section 7(b) is subject to a civil penalty, for each violation, of not more than \$[1,000] for a first violation and not more than \$[5,000] for a subsequent violation within [three] years.
 - (c) A logistics shipper that violates Section 3(d) or (e)(3), Section 5(a), or Section 6(b) or

- 1 (d) is subject to a civil penalty, for each violation, of not more than \$[100] for a first violation
- 2 and not more than \$[500] for a subsequent violation within [three] years.
- 3 [(d) A licensed direct shipper or carrier that violates Section 5(b) or (c) or Section 6(b) or
- 4 (d) is subject to a civil penalty, for each violation, of not more than \$[100] for a first violation
- 5 and not more than \$[500] for a subsequent violation within [three] years.]
- 6 (e) A violation of a rule adopted by the [commission] under this [act] is deemed a
- 7 violation of the provision of the [act] to which the rule relates.
 - (f) A suspension or revocation of registration under Section 3(f) is in addition to a penalty
- 9 that may be imposed under this section.
- 10 Legislative Note: The state may determine that this section fits better within existing state law
- for imposing penalties related to alcoholic beverage violations and that it is preferable to insert
- 12 the applicable penalties in existing law. Also, the creation in this section of only civil penalties
- might not be consistent with the state's approach to making violations of state alcoholic
- 14 beverage laws criminal offenses.

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Bracketed material in paragraph (d) relates to the optional language in Sections 5 and 6. The state should ensure that the text in these provisions is consistent. If the state requires licensed direct shippers to submit reports under existing law, it should determine whether the penalties under this section are consistent with the penalties under existing law for the licensed direct shipper's failure to do so.

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Some provisions in this section are bracketed to indicate the amount of the penalty or the three-year "look back" period may be adjusted to reflect the state's preferences.

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25 Comment

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Some states prescribe general penalties that apply to almost any violation of the state's alcoholic beverage laws. Accordingly, at least some portion of this section may already be covered by the enacting state's law. It is also common for violations of a state's alcoholic beverage laws to be criminal offenses. The creation in the act of only civil penalties might not be consistent with the state's approach to penalizing alcoholic beverage violations.

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The penalties imposed under this section are imposed by a court. The act does not include any provision specifying who may bring a court enforcement proceeding. Depending on the state, the action might be brought by the attorney general, a district attorney or city attorney, or the regulatory agency. This act presumes that each state will continue to rely on existing law that specifies which agencies or governmental units may bring an enforcement action.

1	Section 10. Rules
2	The [commission] may adopt rules under [cite to state administrative procedure act] to
3	administer, enforce, implement, or interpret this [act], including rules concerning:
4	(1) a form under this [act];
5	(2) the method for submitting a logistics-shipper-registration application; [and]
6	(3) the method and deadline for filing a report, including the format for an
7	electronic report[;] [and]
8	[(4) appointing and maintaining an agent for service of process[;] [and]]
9	[(5) procedures providing due process in administrative proceedings under this
10	[act]].
11 12	Legislative Note: A state should include this section only if the state's administrative procedure act does not provide adequate rulemaking authority to the state agency.
13 14	Section 11. Uniformity of Application and Construction
15	In applying and construing this uniform act, a court shall consider the promotion of
16	uniformity of the law among jurisdictions that enact it.
17	Section 12. Relation to Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act
18	This [act] modifies, limits, or supersedes the Electronic Signatures in Global and National
19	Commerce Act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7001, et seq. [, as amended], but does not modify, limit, or
20	supersede 15 U.S.C. Section 7001(c), or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices
21	described in 15 U.S.C. Section 7003(b).
22 23 24 25 26 27	Legislative Note: It is the intent of this act to incorporate future amendments to the cited federal law. In a state in which the constitution or other law does not permit incorporation of future amendments when a federal statute is incorporated into state law, the phrase "as amended" should be omitted. The phrase also should be omitted in a state in which, in the absence of a legislative declaration, future amendments are incorporated into state law.
28	Section 13. Transitional Provision

1	(a) A [license, permit, or other authorization] that was issued by the [commission] [other
2	applicable authority] to [a person to ship [wine] [alcoholic beverages] on behalf of another to an
3	individual in this state] and that is in effect on [the effective date of this [act]] continues until the
4	earlier of its date of expiration or [three] months after [the effective date of this [act]]. During
5	this period, the person holding the [license, permit, or authorization] may continue activity
6	authorized under the [license, permit, or authorization] and is subject to the law of this state
7	applicable to the [license, permit, or authorization] as it existed immediately before [the effective
8	date of this [act]]. On expiration of this period, the person holding the [license, permit, or
9	authorization] is subject to this [act].
10	(b) A person that does not hold a [license, permit, or authorization to ship [wine]
11	[alcoholic beverages] on behalf of another to individuals in this state] on [the effective date of
12	this [act]] is subject to this [act] on and after [the effective date of this [act]].]
13 14 15	Legislative Note: The state should include this section only if it already issues fulfillment-provider or logistics-shipper licenses.
16 17 18	Substitute the appropriate terminology for license, permit, or other authorization and for the person being regulated.
19 20	Comment
20 21 22 23 24 25	A few states authorize by license, permit, or registration the operations of fulfillment providers or logistics shippers. If the enacting state is such a state, this section provides a "phase-in" during which the state's existing system is replaced with the logistics shipper registration system under the act.
26	[Section 14. Severability
27	If a provision of this [act] or its application to a person or circumstance is held invalid,
28	the invalidity does not affect another provision or application that can be given effect without the
29	invalid provision].
30	Legislative Note: Include this section only if the state lacks a general severability statute or a

1 2	decision by the highest court of the state adopting a general rule of severability.
3	[Section 15. Repeals; Conforming Amendments
4	(a) Current direct-to-consumer alcoholic beverage shipping law relating to a fulfillment
5	provider or logistics shipper.]
6	(b)]
7	Legislative Note: The state should examine its statutes to determine whether conforming
8	revisions are required by provisions of this act relating to:
9	{registered logistic shipper notification}. See Section 3(d).
10	{public record}. See Section 5(f) and (g).
11	{shipment of wine or alcoholic beverages to another state in violation of that state's law}.
12	See Section {8}
13	
14	Section 16. Effective Date
15	This [act] takes effect
16 17	Legislative Note: The state may choose to include a delayed effective date of at least 60 days to allow time to all applicable agencies and industry members to prepare for implementation.