



*Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission  
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**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CONTROL COMMISSION (“ABCC”) ADVISORY  
REGARDING LOCAL LICENSING AUTHORITY’S (“LLA’s”) OPTION TO  
TEMPORARILY ALLOW ITS ON-PREMISES LICENSEES TO SELL ALCOHOLIC  
BEVERAGES FOR ONE ADDITIONAL HOUR NOT TO EXCEED 3:00 AM AS WELL  
AS THE ABILITY FOR ON-PREMISES LICENSEES LOCATED WITHIN PUBLIC  
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CONSUMPTION AREAS DETERMINED BY THE LLA  
TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION**

On June 8, 2026, Governor Maura Healey signed “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” which permits Local Licensing Authorities the option to temporarily allow its on-premises licensees to sell alcoholic beverages for one additional hour not to exceed 3:00 AM as well as the ability for on-premises licensees located within public alcoholic beverages consumption areas determined by the LLA the authority to sell alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption. The law took effect immediately. The text of the law can be found [HERE](#).

LLAs may designate one or more areas in their municipality where alcoholic beverages will be permitted to be consumed in public spaces, subject to restrictions that the city or town may deem appropriate, through July 31, 2026. LLAs may authorize its on-premises licensees within the designated public alcoholic beverages consumption area(s) the ability to sell alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption. Alcoholic beverages consumed within a designated public consumption district are limited to alcoholic beverages sold by participating on-premises licensed establishments located within the designated district.

The law also authorizes LLAs to temporarily allow any of its on-premises licensees to sell alcoholic beverages for one additional hour, not to exceed 3:00 AM, subject to any applicable local rules or regulations and any conditions placed upon its license. On-premises licensees do not need to be within a designated public alcoholic beverages consumption area in order to be eligible for the extra hour of alcoholic beverage service not to exceed 3:00 AM.

**Each LLA must inform the ABCC if it decides to opt-in to this new law, which parts of the law it has opted into, what area(s) the LLA has designated for public alcoholic beverages consumption, and what on-premises licensees have extended their operating hours by one hour not to exceed 3:00 AM by uploading a letter to the ABCC’s eLicensing Portal.**

Nothing in the law permits a licensed establishment to sell any type or category of alcoholic beverage beyond the type or category of alcoholic beverages that the licensed establishment is permitted to sell under its currently issued license.

The provisions of the law pertaining to public alcoholic beverages consumption areas, on-premises licensees selling alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption, and **the option for on-premises licensees to sell alcoholic beverages for one additional hour not to exceed 3:00 AM expire Friday, July 31, 2026.**

As always, all licensees must ensure that they comply with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and that sales of alcoholic beverages take place only as authorized by federal, state, and local law.

Questions concerning this Advisory may be directed to Ralph Sacramone, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission at (617) 727- 3040 x 731.

(Issued 6/9/2026)