Bill: HB1318

Bill Subtitle: TO AMEND THE EXCURSION TRAIN PERMIT TO INCLUDE EXCURSION BOATS.

Sponsors:

Rep. Collins and Sen. English

Basic Change:

Act 68 of 2021 created an "excursion train" alcoholic beverage permit to allow the sale of alcohol to patrons of trains operated on common carrier railroads or railroad authority. HB1318 amends the excursion train permit to also include excursion boats.

An "excursion boat" is a boat made available to the public through ticket sales for scheduled dates and times for operation over a navigable body of water on a fixed schedule or route with a specific beginning and ending point. The permit holder is authorized to sell and serve alcoholic beverages only when the excursion boat is in a territory that has authorized the sale of alcoholic beverages. An excursion boat permit fee would be \$200 and could be renewed annually.

Fiscal Impact:

The fee currently established for this permit is \$200 yearly. With the expansion of businesses who could apply for this permit, ABC may bring in additional permit revenue.

Taxpayer Impact:

Citizens would be able to purchase and consume alcohol while on a boat tour of Arkansas' navigable waterways.

Resources Required:

None.

Time Required:

None.

Procedural Changes:

ABC staff and enforcement agents will be trained on the change in application and inspection procedures.

Other Comments:

None.

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Legal Analysis:

The current permit restricts alcohol sale and service to when the excursion train is traveling within wet areas. The same would be true for excursion boats.

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