**South Carolina General Assembly**

125th Session, 2023-2024

**H. 3842**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

Joint Resolution

Sponsors: Reps. Tedder, Collins, Gatch and Herbkersman

Companion/Similar bill(s): 1033

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Introduced in the House on January 31, 2023

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: Constitution - Sale of alcoholic beverages

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 1/31/2023 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal‑page 5)

 1/31/2023 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** (House Journal‑page 5)

View the latest  [legislative information](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=3842&session=125&summary=B)  at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[01/31/2023](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/3842_20230131.docx)

A joint Resolution

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 1, ARTICLE VIII-A OF THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA, RELATING TO THE POWERS OF the GENERAL ASSEMBLY PERTAINING TO ALCOHOLIC LIQUORS AND BEVERAGES, SO AS TO DELETE THE PROVISIONS THAT PROHIBIT THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BEtWEEN 7:00 P.M. AND 9:00 A.M.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. It is proposed that Section 1, Article VIII‑A of the Constitution of this State be amended to read:

 Section 1. In the exercise of the police power the General Assembly has the right to prohibit and to regulate the manufacture, sale, and retail of alcoholic liquors or beverages within the State. The General Assembly may license persons or corporations to manufacture, sell, and retail alcoholic liquors or beverages within the State under the rules and restrictions as it considers proper, including the right to sell alcoholic liquors or beverages in containers of such size as the General Assembly considers appropriate. The General Assembly may prohibit the manufacture, sale, and retail of alcoholic liquors and beverages within the State, and may authorize and empower state, county, and municipal officers, all or either, under the authority and in the name of the State, to buy in any market and retail within the State liquors and beverages in such packages and quantities, under such rules and regulations, as it considers expedient. However, a license must not be granted to sell alcoholic beverages in less quantities than one ounce in licensed retail stores, or to sell them between seven o’clock p.m. and nine o’clock a.m., or to sell them to be drunk on the premises; however, the General Assembly shall not delegate to any municipal corporation the power to issue licenses to sell alcoholic liquors or beverages. However, licenses may be granted to sell and consume alcoholic liquors and beverages on the premises of businesses which engage primarily and substantially in the preparation and serving of meals or furnishing of lodging or on the premises of certain nonprofit organizations with limited membership not open to the general public, during such hours as the General Assembly may provide.

SECTION 2. The proposed amendment must be submitted to the qualified electors at the next general election for representatives. Ballots must be provided at the various voting precincts with the following words printed or written on the ballot:

 “Must Section VIII‑A, Article 1 of the Constitution of this State, relating to alcoholic liquors and beverages,be amended so as to delete the provisions that prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages between seven o’clock p.m. and nine o’clock a.m.?

Yes o

No o

Those voting in favor of the question shall deposit a ballot with a check or cross mark in the square after the word ‘Yes’, and those voting against the question shall deposit a ballot with a check or cross mark in the square after the word ‘No’.”

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