

House Bill 608

By: Representatives Kirby of the 114<sup>th</sup>, Dollar of the 45<sup>th</sup>, Stover of the 71<sup>st</sup>, Caldwell of the 20<sup>th</sup>, Yates of the 73<sup>rd</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend of Title 3 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to alcoholic  
2 beverages, so as to provide that the owner of two or more licensed retail facilities located in  
3 two or more wholesalers' territories may select one such wholesaler to service all such retail  
4 facilities; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Title 3 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to alcoholic beverages, is  
8 amended in Code Section 3-4-152, relating to submission of labels, designation of sales  
9 territories and exclusive wholesale distributors, and approval by commissioner, by revising  
10 subsection (b) as follows:

11 "(b) Designations of wholesalers and wholesalers' territories as provided in this Code  
12 section shall be initially approved by the commissioner and shall not be changed or initially  
13 disapproved except for cause; provided, however, that the owner of two or more licensed  
14 retail facilities in two or more authorized wholesalers' territories shall be authorized to  
15 select one of such wholesalers as distributor to service all such licensed retail facilities  
16 without regard to geographical territories. The commissioner shall determine cause after  
17 a hearing ~~under~~ pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the commissioner for  
18 such purposes."

19 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 2.**

20 Said title is further amended in Code Section 3-5-31, relating to brewer-wholesaler relations,  
21 license requirement for shippers of beer, and application, by revising subsection (c) as  
22 follows:

23 "(c) Designations of wholesalers or wholesalers' territories as provided in this Code section  
24 shall be initially approved by the commissioner and shall not be changed nor initially  
25 disapproved except for cause; provided, however, that the owner of two or more licensed

26 retail facilities in two or more authorized wholesalers' territories shall be authorized to  
27 select one of such wholesalers as distributor to service all such licensed retail facilities  
28 without regard to geographical territories. The commissioner shall determine cause after  
29 a hearing ~~under~~ pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the commissioner for  
30 such purposes."

31 **SECTION 3.**

32 Said title is further amended in Code Section 3-6-22, relating to requirement of license for  
33 shipment of wines into state, contents of application, accompanying documents and labels,  
34 and approval of wholesalers' territories by commissioner, by revising subsection (c) as  
35 follows:

36 "(c) Designations of wholesalers and wholesalers' territories as provided in this Code  
37 section shall be initially approved by the commissioner and shall not be changed or initially  
38 disapproved except for cause; provided, however, that the owner of two or more licensed  
39 retail facilities in two or more authorized wholesalers' territories shall be authorized to  
40 select one of such wholesalers as distributor to service all such licensed retail facilities  
41 without regard to geographical territories. The commissioner shall determine cause after  
42 a hearing ~~under~~ pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the commissioner for  
43 such purposes."

44 **SECTION 4.**

45 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.