

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

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HOUSE BILL 4  
Committee Substitute Favorable 2/3/21  
Third Edition Engrossed 2/4/21

Short Title: Extend ABC Permit Renewal Fee Deferral.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

January 28, 2021

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO EXTEND THE DELAY ON THE PAYMENT DEADLINE FOR CERTAIN ABC PERMIT RENEWALS AND TO DIRECT THE ABC COMMISSION TO REINSTATE OR REACTIVATE CERTAIN CANCELLED OR INACTIVATED ABC PERMITS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Section 1 of S.L. 2020-94 reads as rewritten:

"**SECTION 1.** Notwithstanding G.S. 18B-903, payment of the fee for renewal or registration of an ABC permit held by an ABC permittee that is prohibited from operating pursuant to Executive Order No. 141, Easing Restrictions on Travel, Business Operations, and Mass Gatherings, shall not be required until 90 days after the date ~~the Governor signs an executive order rescinding the prohibition on those permittees' operation, all executive orders responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and limiting the full operation of the permittee are rescinded or expire,~~ provided the ABC permittee notifies the ABC Commission in writing, including by e-mail or other electronic means, of its intent to delay payment."

**SECTION 2.** Section 2 of S.L. 2020-94 is repealed.

**SECTION 3.** Any ABC permittee that (i) is prohibited from operating pursuant to Executive Order No. 141, Easing Restrictions on Travel, Business Operations, and Mass Gatherings, (ii) is subject to any executive order responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and limiting the full operation of the permittee, and (iii) has paid a fee for renewal or registration of an ABC permit for the 2020-2021 permit year, may request a refund of the fee from the ABC Commission. The request shall be made to the ABC Commission in writing, including by email or other electronic means. The refund shall be granted regardless of whether the permittee is operating at limited capacity pursuant to an executive order responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. A permittee that receives a refund from the Commission pursuant to this section shall repay the fee before the expiration of the period established by Section 1 of S.L. 2020-94, as amended by Section 1 of this act. Any person who (i) held an ABC permit in the 2020-2021 permit year for a business that was prohibited from operating under Executive Order No. 141, (ii) who paid the fee for renewal or registration of the permit, and (iii) surrendered the permit due to closure of the person's business may also request a refund and shall not be required to repay the fee.

**SECTION 4.** The ABC Commission shall reinstate or reactivate any ABC permits it cancelled or moved to inactive status as a result of its interpretation of Section 1 of S.L. 2020-94 as it existed prior to being amended by Section 1 of this act. In implementing this section, the Commission shall not require affected ABC permittees to submit an application or pay any fees required under G.S. 18B-902. Any permittee whose permit was cancelled or moved to inactive



1 status in this manner and who paid the permit fee to have the permit reinstated or reactivated may  
2 request a refund pursuant to Section 3 of this act.

3 **SECTION 5.** Section 1 of this act is retroactively effective June 30, 2020. The  
4 remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.