

Assembly Bill No. 1798

CHAPTER 242

An act to add Section 25246 to the Business and Professions Code, relating to alcoholic beverages.

[Approved by Governor September 23, 2010. Filed with Secretary of State September 24, 2010.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1798, Evans. Alcoholic beverages: wine labels: Sonoma County.

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Act provides for specified labeling requirements for containers of alcoholic beverages sold within this state.

This bill would require any wine bottled on or after January 1, 2014, labeled with an American Viticultural Area established pursuant to federal law that is located entirely within a county of the 19th class, to bear the designation "Sonoma County" on the label in specified type size as determined by the size of the wine container, as prescribed. The bill would authorize the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to suspend or revoke the license of any person who violates those provisions.

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Act provides that a violation of its provisions is a misdemeanor, unless otherwise specified.

This bill, by creating a new crime, imposes a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 25246 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

25246. (a) Any wine labeled with an American Viticultural Area established pursuant to Part 9 (commencing with Section 9.1) of Title 27 of the Code of Federal Regulations, that is located entirely within a county of the 19th class, shall bear the designation "Sonoma County" on the label in a type size not smaller than two millimeters on containers of more than 187 milliliters or smaller than one millimeter on containers of 187 milliliters or less.

(b) The department may suspend or revoke the license of any person who violates this section.

(c) This section shall not apply to any wine labeled with a viticultural area appellation of origin established pursuant to Part 9 (commencing with Section 9.1) of Title 27 of the Code of Federal Regulations when the name of the appellation includes the term “Sonoma County.”

(d) This section shall apply to wines bottled on or after January 1, 2014.

SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.