

COVID Bills Relative to Tourism

HD5017	An Act establishing a COVID-19 nonprofit cultural organizations emergency relief fund
Sponsor	Rep. John Barrett (D)
Summary	<p>Establishes and regulates the use of the COVID-19 Nonprofit Cultural Organizations Emergency Relief Fund; directs the Mass Cultural Council to administer the fund for the purpose of providing financial assistance, through grants, to nonprofit cultural organizations within the commonwealth that are experiencing financial distress due to the COVID-19 state of emergency; additionally requires the comptroller to transfer \$75,000,000 to such fund on the effective date of the act.</p> <p><i>NOTE:</i> Designated an emergency law, allowing for it to take immediate effect upon passage.</p>
Last Action	04/21/2020 H – Referred to Joint Committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development
HB4705	An Act providing aid to nonprofit and charitable organizations in Gateway cities for the provision of services during the COVID-19 outbreak.
Sponsor	Rep. Carlos Gonzalez (D)
Summary	<p>Establishes and regulates the use of the COVID-19 Nonprofit Digital Assistance Fund; directs the executive office of housing and economic development to administer the fund</p>

and provide grants to small non-profit organizations which lack the digital infrastructure to operate remotely; directs the comptroller to transfer \$5,000,000 to the fund and caps grants to individual non-profits at \$10,000; requires non-profits receiving these grants to use the funds to establish an online platform to provide services, communication and support to its community.

NOTE: Designated an emergency law, allowing for it to take immediate effect upon passage.

Last Action	05/11/2020 S – Concurred in committee referral
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HD5076 **An Act to Expand Access to Patio Dining**

Sponsor	Rep. Kate Hogan (D)
Summary	Authorizes businesses that are licensed to sell food and alcoholic beverages, or only wines and malt beverages, to sell these items on a designated outdoor area on the establishment's licensed premises, so long as alcohol is not served to those under 21, or sold past either the establishment's licensed closing time or midnight, whichever is earlier; provides for this act to be in effect for a period of 150 days beginning with the expiration of the COVID-19 state of emergency.
Last Action	05/07/2020 H – Filed in the House

[SD2944](#)**An Act to address challenges faced by restaurants and other establishments due to COVID-19**

Sponsor Sen. Paul Feeney (D)

Summary Authorizes the local licensing authority in any city or town to amend existing liquor licenses to facilitate outdoor alcohol service; requires local licensing authorities to notify the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission of any amended licences; authorizes the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission to promulgate regulations to implement this act; provides for this act, and the license amendments, to expire on November 1, 2020.

Last Action 05/14/2020 S – Referred to Joint Committee on Rules

[HB4728](#)**An Act relative to taxes while Executive Order 591 is in effect**

Sponsor Rep. Mindy Domb (D)

Summary Prohibits submission of taxes collected by restaurants, bed and breakfast establishments, hotels, lodging houses, short-term rentals, motels or event, concert or conference venues for the duration of the Governor’s COVID-19 emergency declaration, executive order 591; requires continuing collection of any tax and notice to the department of revenue; requires payment of the tax within 365 days of the recession of the executive order.

Additionally prohibits submission of taxes on wages subject to the income tax under [GL](#)

[Chapter 62](#); requires continuing collection of any tax and notice to the department of revenue; requires payment of the tax within 365 days of the recession of the executive order.

NOTE: Designated an emergency law, allowing for it to take immediate effect upon passage.

Last action	05/18/2020 S – Concurred in committee referral
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[HD4967](#) **An Act relative to restaurant relief**

Sponsor	Rep. Angelo L. D’Emilia (R)
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Summary Limits establishments licensed for the sale of beer, wine and spirits on the premises to selling only their current inventory of alcoholic beverages in unopened canned or bottled containers; defines current inventory as those received prior to Friday, March 20, 2020; terminates the restriction upon lifting of the state of emergency declared by the Governor in executive order 591.

NOTE: Designated an emergency law, allowing for it to take immediate effect upon passage.

Last action	04/02/2020 – Referred to Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure
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[HD4971](#) **An Act to expand options for local restaurants during the COVID-19 emergency**

Sponsor	Rep. Kenneth I. Gordon (D)
Summary	Authorizes all holders of licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises restaurants, bars, etc. to begin selling alcohol via delivery or curbside pickup; places various restrictions on the delivery of alcoholic beverages in order to ensure that the alcoholic beverages cannot be readily accessed while driving or sold to someone under the age of 21; limits sales to 1.5 liters of wine, 72 ounces of malt beverages, and 10 ounces of spirits per customer per day; requires wines and spirits to be sold in their original sealed containers, and spirits to sold in a tamper proof container; caps the price at which alcoholic beverages can be sold in this manner, allowing existing inventory to be sold at the listed menu price, and requiring any inventory acquired after March 15th to be sold at cost; authorizes sales of alcoholic beverages between these licensees e.g., one restaurant selling its inventory to another; provides for this act to take effect immediately, and expire along with the expiration of either the COVID-19 state of emergency, or the prohibition of on-premises food or drink consumption, whichever comes first.
Last Action	04/09/2020 – Referred to Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure

HD4975 An Act establishing a COVID-19 food service and hospitality worker relief fund

Sponsor	Rep. William Smitty Pignatelli (D)
Summary	Establishes the COVID-19 Food Service and Hospitality Worker Relief Emergency Fund, administered by the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, for the purpose of providing financial assistance to individuals employed in the food service and hospitality

industries, that have been laid off or are otherwise experiencing financial distress due to the COVID-19 state of emergency; directs the comptroller to transfer \$75,000,000 to such fund.

NOTE: Designated an emergency law, allowing for it to take immediate effect upon passage.

Last Action	04/13/2020 – Referred to Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development
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