

HOUSE No. 2541

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, March 10, 1955.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives.

Recent events have indicated the high desirability of placing in the hands of local licensing authorities charged with the supervision of issuing licenses and permits to establishments selling and serving liquor sufficient power to inquire into the true ownership of corporations seeking such permits or licenses either through original issuance, reissuance or transfer. It is essential that the local boards know the identity of the real owners of such establishments. Existing law is insufficient for them to secure such information. I, therefore, transmit herewith an act designed to disclose the true ownership of corporations engaged in the sale of alcoholic beverages, and recommend that you give it early and favorable consideration.

CHRISTIAN A. HERTER,
Governor of the Commonwealth.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Five.

AN ACT TO GIVE FURTHER CONTROL TO LICENSING AUTHORITIES OVER LICENSES TO SELL AND SERVE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 138 of the General Laws is hereby further
2 amended by inserting at the end of section 23 the fol-
3 lowing new paragraph: —

4 No license or permit shall be granted to any corpora-
5 tion to sell alcoholic beverages unless there is filed with
6 the application for such license a list of all stockholders
7 in said corporation, giving the names and addresses of all
8 such stockholders and the number of shares owned by
9 the stockholders, and also the name and address of any
10 person who has a direct or indirect beneficial interest in
11 any stock in said corporation. This shall apply not only
12 to an original application but to any application for a
13 renewal or transfer to a corporation of an existing li-
14 cense held by any corporation. No stock in a corpora-
15 tion holding a license or permit under the provisions of
16 chapter one hundred and thirty-eight shall be sold, trans-
17 ferred, pledged or issued without first obtaining permis-
18 sion from the local licensing authority. Any failure to
19 comply with the provisions of this section shall be cause
20 for suspension or revocation of the license or permit.