

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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Bill Type and Number: Resolution 2022-881

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council Member Ferraro

Date of Introduction: November 22, 2022

Committee(s) of Reference: NCSPHS, R

Date of Analysis: November 24, 2022

Type of Action: Expression of support for legislative J-bill; providing for advertising requirements; directing codification of future state law

Bill Summary: The bill expresses the City Council's support for local legislative bill J-1 which would provide an exception to Section 561.20(1), *Florida Statutes*, to a specific area in northeast Jacksonville to allow for modified space and seating requirements for restaurants seeking liquor licenses within that area to be known as the North Florida Keys Corridor on Heckscher Drive.

Background Information: The Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco is responsible for issuing alcoholic beverage sales and service licenses. Licensing of a restaurant for on-premises consumption of alcohol typically requires a minimum of 2,500 square feet of service area, sufficient seating capacity to serve meals to 150 persons at a time, and the derivation of at least 51% of the gross food and beverage revenue of the restaurant from food and non-alcoholic beverage sales. In 1987 the Legislature designated a Northside East, Northside West and Southbank zone in downtown Jacksonville (the combined Northbank and Southbank community redevelopment areas/tax increment districts) within which restaurants could be licensed for alcoholic beverage sales with a reduced seating capacity requirement from 150 to 100 patrons and a reduced square footage requirement from 2,500 to 1,800 square feet. This bill expresses support for passage of a J-bill that would further reduce the minimum seating capacity from 100 to 50 seats and reduce the square footage requirement from 1,800 to 1,000 square feet in an area to be known as the North Florida Keys Corridor. That area would encompass the parcels located along Heckscher Drive from Clapboard Creek on the south/west end (near the entrance to the Jaxport terminal on Blount Island) to Haulover Creek at the north/east end (near the entrance to Huguenot Park).

Policy Impact Area: Alcoholic beverage licensing regulations

Fiscal Impact: Undetermined; will allow smaller premises than permitted under general state regulations to be licensed for alcoholic beverage sales, which may produce additional sales tax revenues.

Analyst: Clements