

# CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



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**Bill Type and Number:** Resolution 2022-882

**Introducer/Sponsor(s):** Council Member Clark-Murray

**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-2 which would provide an exception to Section 561.20(1), *Florida Statutes*, to a specific area in the urban core of Jacksonville to allow for modified space and seating requirements for event centers seeking liquor licenses within that area to be known as the Dennis Street Commercial Corridor Area in Mixontown.

**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 create a new special zone for event centers in the Dennis Street Commercial Corridor Area in Jacksonville so as to provide an exception to §561.20, *Florida Statutes*, for event centers which have an occupant capacity between 2,100 and 2,900 people, an overall floor capacity between 22,000 and 35,000 square feet, and derive no less than 51 percent of annual gross income from sale of event center tickets and food and nonalcoholic beverages that are prepared, served, and consumed on such premises within the Dennis Street Commercial Corridor.

The Dennis Street Commercial Corridor would consist of 2 parcels on Dennis Street immediately west of I-95 comprising a total of 5.55 acres.

**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