

Background

The Wine-In-Grocery Stores (WIGS) bill requires an applicant to be licensed by the Tennessee Alcohol and Beverage Commission. As a condition, each applicant to the TABC must possess a certificate signed by either the mayor or a majority of the members of the legislative body.

This certificate is required to include a statement under such signature, certifying that the applicant, who is in charge of the business, has not been convicted of a felony within a ten year period immediately preceding the date of application.

Propose legislation removing the requirement that a either a mayor or a majority of the members of a local governing body certify, under signature, that an applicant is not a convicted felon.



Problem

Neither a city nor a county legislative body is in a position to determine with any accuracy whether an individual applicant has been convicted of a felony without conducting a background check. There is a cost associated with performing such checks. Yet, the WIGS legislation does not authorize a fee to be collected to offset this mandate.