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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ALCOHOL.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. Section 244D-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending the definition of "beer" to read as follows:  
3            "Beer" means any alcoholic beverage containing no less  
4 than 0.5 per cent alcohol by volume obtained by the fermentation  
5 or any infusion or decoction of [~~barley,~~] malt, [~~hops, or any~~  
6 ~~other similar product, or any combination thereof in water, and~~]  
7 wholly or in part, or any substitute therefor, including grain  
8 of any kind, bran, glucose, sugar, or molasses. "Beer" includes  
9 ale, porter, brown, stout, lager beer, small beer, [~~and~~] strong  
10 beer [~~but~~], and alcoholic seltzer beverages. "Beer" does not  
11 include sake, known as Japanese rice wine, [~~or~~] cooler  
12 beverage[-], or a product of distillation, by whatever name  
13 known, that contains distilled spirits, alcoholic spirits, or  
14 spirits."

15           SECTION 2. Section 281-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
16 amended by amending the definition of "beer" to read as follows:

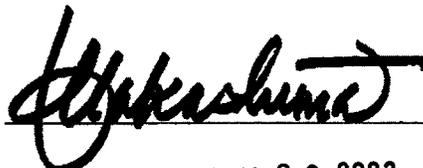


1            "Beer" means any alcoholic beverage containing no less  
2 than 0.5 per cent alcohol by volume obtained by the [~~aleehelic~~]  
3 fermentation of any infusion or decoction of [barley or other  
4 grain,] malt, [~~and hops in water.~~] wholly or in part, or any  
5 substitute therefor, including grain of any kind, bran, glucose,  
6 sugar, or molasses. "Beer" includes ale, porter, brown, stout,  
7 lager beer, small beer, strong beer, and alcoholic seltzer  
8 beverages. "Beer" does not include sake, known as Japanese rice  
9 wine, cooler beverage, or a product of distillation, by whatever  
10 name known, that contains distilled spirits, alcoholic spirits,  
11 or spirits."

12            SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
13 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

14            SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

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INTRODUCED BY:   
JAN 20 2023



# H.B. NO. 647

**Report Title:**

Alcohol; Beer; Liquor Tax; Liquor Law; Definition

**Description:**

Expands the definition of "beer" under the State's liquor tax and liquor regulatory laws, to specify that the term includes an alcohol by volume of no less than 0.5 per cent and alcohol seltzer beverages, but excludes certain other forms of distillation.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

