

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

S.B. 1251

By: Armbrister

Licensing & Administrative Procedures

Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Currently, the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC) only accepts applications for original or renewal licenses or permits through the mail. Accepting applications through the Internet may facilitate the application process. As proposed, S.B. 1251 allows TABC to enter into an agreement with another agency to provide for the issuance of original or renewal licenses or permits electronically, including through the Internet. This bill also authorizes TABC to charge a reasonable service fee to those who use the electronic or Internet service and prohibits charging a service fee to those applicants who choose not to utilize the electronic or Internet method.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

Amends Chapter 5B, Alcoholic Beverage Code, by adding Section 5.55, as follows:

Sec. 5.55. AGREEMENTS FOR ELECTRONIC PROCESSING OF LICENSES OR PERMITS. Authorizes the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC) or TABC administrator to enter into an agreement with another agency of this state to provide for the issuance of original or renewal licenses or permits electronically, including the use of the Internet, to facilitate the licensing process. Authorizes charging a reasonable service fee for using the electronic or Internet service to apply for original or renewal licenses or permits, subject to other laws limiting or defining those fees; and prohibits TABC, or another agency, from charging a service fee to those applicants who choose not to utilize the electronic or Internet method to apply for an original or renewal license or permit.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2003.