

By: Swinford

H.B. No. 1620

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to funding of the Texas Wine Marketing Assistance Program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 5, Alcoholic Beverage Code, is amended by adding Section 5.55 to read as follows:

Sec. 5.55. FUNDING OF TEXAS WINE MARKETING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. (a) Notwithstanding the General Appropriations Act or any other law, on or before October 1 of each fiscal year, the commission shall transfer from funds appropriated to the commission \$250,000 to the Department of Agriculture to be used by the department to implement the Texas Wine Marketing Assistance Program established by Chapter 110.

(b) The commission in accordance with this subsection may recover the amount transferred under Subsection (a) by imposing a surcharge on licenses and permits, other than an agent's permit or an agent's beer license, issued or renewed by the commission each fiscal year. The surcharge shall be an amount equal to the amount transferred under Subsection (a) divided by the number of licenses and permits the commission anticipates issuing during that year, rounded down to the next lowest whole dollar.

(c) The governing body of an incorporated city or town or the commissioners court of a county may not levy and collect a fee under Section 11.38 or 61.36 based on a surcharge imposed under this section.

1 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.