

ORDINANCE NO. _____ OF 2025

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 10 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA, RELATIVE TO RENEWAL TERMS FOR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HANDLING EMPLOYEE CARDS AND RETAIL ALCOHOL PERMITS, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

BY: _____

WHEREAS, the City of Shreveport, through its Police Department, currently administers the issuance and renewal of Alcoholic Beverage Handling Employee Cards ("ABO cards") and permits for the sale and service of alcoholic beverages;

WHEREAS, the City currently mandates that all liquor licenses be renewed annually, regardless of business type, including restaurants, bars, grocery stores, and liquor stores;

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that extending the validity of ABO cards from two years to three years will reduce administrative workload, lower renewal costs for workers, and allow SPD staff to reallocate time toward inspections and enforcement;

WHEREAS, following discussions with industry stakeholders and a review of regulatory best practices, the City has determined that restaurants and grocery stores would benefit from the option to obtain a two-year liquor license, provided that they remain in continuous operation and comply with existing licensing requirements;

WHEREAS, the annual renewal requirement for liquor stores, bars and cocktail lounges shall remain unchanged due to the distinct operational nature and regulatory considerations applicable to those establishments;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Shreveport, Louisiana, in due, legal and regular session convened, that Section 10-69 – Fee and term, Subsection (a) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Shreveport is hereby amended to read as follows:

- (a) Alcoholic Beverage Handling Employee Cards shall be valid for a period of three (3) years from the date of issuance, unless suspended or revoked.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that Section 10-51 – Personal nature of permits; necessity of display; penalties, Subsection (a) (1) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Shreveport is hereby amended to read as follows:

- (a) The following shall apply to permits issued under this article:
 - (1) Permits for liquor stores, bars and cocktail lounges shall be issued under this article for a term of one (1) year from the date of issuance by the finance director unless sooner suspended or revoked. Permits for grocery stores and restaurants may, at the applicant's option, be issued for a term of either one (1) year or two (2) years from the date of issuance, provided that the establishment remains in continuous operation. If the operation ceases for a continuous period of six (6) months, the license shall expire. The price for the two-year permit will be twice that of the price for a one-year permit."

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BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that Section 10-52 – Term; renewal, Subsection (a) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Shreveport is hereby amended to read as follows:

- (a) A permit issued under this chapter shall be dated from the effective date as shown on the permit and be valid for either one (1) or two (2) year(s) from that date, unless sooner suspended or revoked. Liquor stores, bars, and cocktail lounges are only eligible for one-year permits. The price for the two-year permit will be twice that of the price for a one-year permit. Application for the renewal of such a permit shall be filed in the manner provided by this article on or before 30 days prior to the expiration date as shown on the existing permit. The permit holder, or in the case of a corporation, the designated agent shall sign and certify that all information contained in the application is true and correct. The renewal permit will be dated from the date of expiration of the existing permit.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED If any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items, or applications of this ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items, or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall become effective in accordance with the provisions of the Shreveport City Charter Section 4.23.

THUS DONE AND ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Shreveport, Louisiana.

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

City Attorney's Office