

State of Louisiana
Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control

John Bel Edwards
Governor



Juana Marine-Lombard
Commissioner

Updated March 23, 2020

**LIQUOR CREDIT EXTENDED TO 45 DAYS FOR BARS
AFFECTED BY COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

The Louisiana Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control (“ATC”) understands that this is a challenging time for Louisiana businesses. ATC will continue to make every effort to assist affected businesses to weather the financial storm caused by the pandemic including working with the wine and spirit wholesalers who will extend short term credit sales with bar retailers from fifteen days to forty-five (45) days or to April 30, 2020.

Generally, under LSA R.S. 26:148, retailers are prohibited from purchasing from wine or spirits wholesaler for any consideration other than cash or on terms requiring payment not later than the fifteenth day following that on which actual delivery is made. Any bars (Class AG) and restaurants (Class AR) businesses affected by COVID-19 and have ceased operations as per Governor Edwards’ Executive Order issued on March 16, 2020 will be granted an extension to April 30th to make full payment. During this period of time, the retailer will not be deemed to be in default and will not be to subject to cash only delivery orders. However, if the business resumes operations by reordering products prior to April 30th, past due invoices shall be due upon delivery of products.

We are urging businesses to consider the health and welfare of their employees and customers as Louisiana is under a state of emergency. Governor Edwards and local leaders have issued proclamations which have the weight of law. It is intended to restrict social gathering to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Any licensee failing to comply with these proclamations may risk having their permit summarily suspended for endangering the public health, safety, and welfare under LSA. R.S. 49:961(c).

We understand the concern and uncertainty you may be experiencing surrounding the coronavirus and remain committed to being responsive to the needs of the public. This policy will remain effective until further notice. Should you have any questions or concerns related to this matter, please contact ATC at (225) 925-4041.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Juana Marine-Lombard".

Juana Marine-Lombard
ATC Commissioner