

A bill for an act

relating to farm wineries; allowing farm wineries to manufacture cognacs and brandies; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 340A.315, by adding a subdivision.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 340A.315, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 7. **Cognac and brandy permitted.** Farm wineries licensed under this section are permitted to manufacture distilled spirits as defined under section 340A.101, subdivision 9, including brandies and cognacs which may exceed 25 percent alcohol by volume, made from Minnesota produced or grown grapes, grape juice, other fruit bases, or honey. The following conditions pertain:

(1) no farm winery or firm owning multiple farm wineries may manufacture more than 5,000 gallons of distilled spirits in a given year, and this 5,000 gallon limit is part of the 50,000 gallon limit found in section 340A.315, subdivision 2;

(2) farm wineries must pay an additional annual fee of \$500 to the commissioner before beginning production of distilled spirits; and

(3) farm wineries may not sell or produce distilled spirits for direct sale to manufacturers licensed under section 340A.301, subdivision 6, paragraph (a).