

41-410. Exclusive territorial franchises, liquor and cereal malt beverage; filing of notice; termination or modification of franchise. (a) No distributor shall sell any alcoholic liquor or cereal malt beverage in this state unless such distributor has filed with the director a written notice stating each geographic territory, agreed upon in writing between the distributor and a supplier of the distributor, within which the distributor sells one or more brands of such supplier to retailers licensed under the Kansas liquor control act or under K.S.A. 41-2702, and amendments thereto, or to clubs or drinking establishments licensed under the club and drinking establishment act. Such notice shall be accompanied by a map outlining each geographic territory stated in the notice. No manufacturer, importer or other supplier shall grant a franchise for the distribution of a brand to more than one distributor for all or part of any designated territory.

(b) Each supplier of alcoholic liquor or cereal malt beverage doing business within this state shall file with the director a written notice describing each geographic territory, agreed upon in writing between the supplier and a distributor, within which the distributor sells one or more brands of the supplier to retailers licensed under the Kansas liquor control act or under K.S.A. 41-2702, and amendments thereto, or to clubs or drinking establishments licensed under the club and drinking establishment act.

(c) No supplier or distributor shall terminate or modify a franchise for the distribution of a brand of alcoholic liquor or cereal malt beverage or alter the geographic territory designated in a franchise agreement unless such supplier or distributor files written notice thereof with the director not less than 30 days prior to the termination, modification or alteration. In the case of an alteration in a franchise territory, such notice shall be accompanied by a map outlining the altered territory. Upon receipt of such notice, the director shall notify immediately, by certified mail, all affected parties of the impending termination, modification or alteration.

(d) Any notice filed by a supplier pursuant to subsection (c) shall be accompanied by an affidavit stating that the termination, modification or alteration is not caused by the failure of the distributor to violate any provision of the Kansas liquor control act or any rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

(e) Any supplier or distributor aggrieved by a termination, modification or alteration made under subsection (c) may file an appropriate action in any district court of this state having venue, alleging that the termination, modification or alteration violates the franchise agreement between the supplier and distributor involved.

(f) No franchise agreement for the distribution of a brand of alcoholic liquor or cereal malt beverage shall be terminated or modified, nor shall the territory designated in such an agreement be altered, except for reasonable cause.

(g) This section shall be part of and supplemental to the Kansas liquor control act.

History: L. 1979, ch. 153, § 3; L. 1987, ch. 182, § 39; L. 1987, ch. 182, § 40; Jan. 1, 1988.