

Is it possible to serve on the selectboard and hold a local liquor license?

Yes. Though there would appear to be a conflict of interest in serving both as a local liquor control commissioner and holding a local license, state law was amended in 1991 to allow selectboard members to hold a local liquor license. 7 V.S.A. § 223(a). Under prior law, no license of any class was to be granted to a “member of a local control board.” However, in Act 66 of 1991, the Legislature deleted the prohibition and replaced it with a requirement that a selectboard member who holds a first or second class license “shall not participate in any control board action regarding any first or second class license.” The statute goes on to require that if a majority of the board is unable to participate in a control board action, that action “shall be referred to the state liquor control board.” 7 V.S.A. § 223(a)

- Dominic Cloud, Director, Municipal Assistance Center

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