**South Carolina General Assembly**

125th Session, 2023-2024

**H. 4698**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. Leber, Guffey, Hartnett, Bustos, S. Jones, Landing and Brewer

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Introduced in the House on January 9, 2024

Currently residing in the House

Summary: Tastings of hard cider and mead

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

12/14/2023 House Prefiled

12/14/2023 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary**

1/9/2024 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 125](h:\hj\20240109.docx))

1/9/2024 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 125](h:\hj\20240109.docx))

1/9/2024 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Hartnett

1/10/2024 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Bustos,
S. Jones, Landing, Brewer

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/14/2023](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/4698_20231214.docx)

A bill

TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING SECTION 61‑4‑125 SO AS TO AUTHORIZE A LICENSED MANUFACTURER OF HARD CIDER OR MEAD TO PROVIDE TASTINGS OF HARD CIDER OR MEAD MANUFACTURED IN THIS STATE ON ITS PREMISES AND UP TO THREE OFF‑SITE LOCATIONS AND TO ALLOW THE PRODUCER OF MEAD TO DISTRIBUTE THE MEAD PRODUCTS TO LICENSED RETAILERS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 4, Title 61 of the S.C. Code is amended by adding:

Section 61‑4‑125. (A) For the purposes of this section:

(1) “Hard cider” means an alcoholic drink made from fermented crushed fruit, typically apples.

(2) “Mead” means a fermented beverage made of water, honey, malt, and yeast, pursuant to 27 CFR part 24.

(B) Notwithstanding any other provision of law:

(1) a licensed manufacturer of hard cider is authorized to provide tastings of its hard cider manufactured in this State, with or without compensation, on its premises and up to three off‑site locations;

(2) a licensed manufacturer of mead is authorized to provide tastings of its mead manufactured in this State, with or without compensation, on its premises and up to three off‑site locations; and

(3) a licensed manufacturer of mead is authorized to distribute its products to South Carolina licensed retailers.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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