State of Arkansas 1 As Engrossed: H3/16/99 H3/25/99 S4/1/99 A Bill 2 82nd General Assembly 3 Regular Session, 1999 HOUSE BILL 2184 4 5 By: Representative Haak 6 7 For An Act To Be Entitled 8 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 3-9-202 TO DEFINE 9 MEMBER OF A PRIVATE CLUB: AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES." 10 11 **Subtitle** 12 "TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 3-9-202 TO DEFINE 13 MEMBER OF A PRIVATE CLUB." 14 15 16 17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS: 18 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 3-9-202(10) is amended to read as follows: 19 20 "(10) 'Private club' means a nonprofit corporation organized and existing under the laws of this state, no part of the net revenues of which 21 22 shall inure directly or indirectly to the benefit of any of its members or any other individual, except for the payment of bona fide expenses of the club's 23 operations, conducted for some common recreational, social, patriotic, 24 political, national, benevolent, athletic, or other nonprofit object or 25 purpose other than the consumption of alcoholic beverages. The nonprofit 26 corporation shall have been in existence for a period of not less than one (1) 27 year before application for a permit, as hereinafter prescribed. At the time 28 29 of application for the permit, the nonprofit corporation must have not less than one hundred (100) members regularly paying annual dues of not less than 30 31 five dollars (\$5.00) per member, and, at the time of application, must own or lease, or be the holder of a buy-sell agreement or offer and acceptance, or 32 have an option to lease a building, property, or space therein for the 33 reasonable comfort and accommodation of its members and their families and 34 35 guests, and restrict the use of club facilities to such persons. For purposes of this subdivision, a person shall be required to become a member of the 36

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- private club in any wet area of the state only upon ordering an alcoholic

 beverage as defined under subdivision (3) of this section. Further, where such

 business entity that holds a private club permit additionally holds a retail

 beer permit, retail wine for consumption on the premises permit, or café or

 restaurant wine permit, the hours of operation authorized for the private club
- 6 shall likewise apply to all permits of such business entity; "

SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Second General Assembly that the provisions of this Act are of critical importance to the State of Arkansas and its business community. The State of Arkansas is losing businesses to other states due to the restrictions imposed on selling liquor in wet counties. The provisions of this Act are necessary to ensure that the restaurant industry in Arkansas stays in Arkansas and expands its business in this state. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall become effective on the date of its approval by the Governor. If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, it shall become effective on the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill. If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, it shall become effective on the date the last house overrides the veto.

 /s/ Haak