

ORDINANCE NUMBER ____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 22 ("BUSINESSES"), ARTICLE II ("LICENSES"), TO ADD VARIOUS PROVISIONS INCLUDING PROVISIONS RELATING TO REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS, CONDITIONS ON BUSINESS LICENSES, PROVISIONAL BUSINESS LICENSES, AND GROUNDS FOR DENIAL OR SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF BUSINESS LICENSES

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the interest of the City and its citizens and businesses, as well as the public interests in good government and public safety, to amend and add provisions of the City Code concerning business licenses and relating to registration of charitable organizations, provisional business licenses, conditions on business licenses, and grounds for denial or suspension or revocation of business licenses,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA, AT ITS REGULAR MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED AND BY THE AUTHORITY THEREOF, THAT

Article II ("Licenses") of Chapter 22 ("Businesses") of the City Code is hereby amended as follows:

- (1) Section 22-19 ("License required") is amended to add a second sentence to read: **Those charitable organizations operating or intending to operate bars, restaurants, private clubs, rental spaces, event spaces, party spaces, or similar facilities shall register by May 1 of each year with the license official and provide evidence of current status as a charitable organization as determined by the Internal Revenue Service, including a current Form 990.**
- (2) Section 22-27 ("Administration") is amended to add a second sentence to read: **The license official also is authorized to issue a business license containing conditions for the operation of the business, such as, for example, a requirement that the licensee may possess, sale or serve alcoholic beverages, beer or wine within the business premises only if the business holds a valid permit or license for such activity from the South Carolina Department of Revenue.**
- (3) Section 22-27 ("Administration") is amended to add a third sentence to read: **The license official is further authorized to issue a provisional business license, valid for forty-five (45) days, to a business intending to sale or serve or allow the possession of alcoholic beverages, beer or wine on its premises that shall provide for operation subject to monitoring by law enforcement for compliance by the business with any conditions imposed by a permit or license issued by the State or by the license official, and which is subject to non-renewal or to suspension or revocation for failure to comply with such conditions.**

(4) Section 22-32 ("Denial of license") is amended to add a new subsection (8) to read: **An activity that constitutes a nuisance may include operation of a business at which there are frequent arrests of persons for crimes of violence, possession or sale of controlled substances, possession or sale of deadly weapons, the discharge of firearms, excessive noise, disorderly conduct, prostitution or disturbance of the peace, or at which there is a high or disproportionate number of response calls by law enforcement, regardless of arrests, to the business premises when compared to other similar businesses in the City.**

(5) Section 22-32 ("Denial of license") is amended to add a new subsection (9) to read: **The applicant, licensee or person in control of the business has violated a condition of any permit or license issued by the license official or by the State.**

(6) Section 22-32 ("Denial of license") is amended to add a new subsection (10) to read: **The activity or activities for which the license was issued are no longer the activity or activities for which the business operates to the detriment of the public.**

(7) Section 22-33 ("Suspension or revocation of license") is amended to add a new subsection (7) to read: **An activity that constitutes a nuisance may include operation of a business at which there are frequent arrests of persons for crimes of violence, possession or sale of controlled substances, possession or sale of deadly weapons, the discharge of firearms, excessive noise, disorderly conduct, prostitution or disturbance of the peace, or at which there is a high or disproportionate number of response calls by law enforcement, regardless of arrests, to the business premises when compared to other similar businesses in the City.**

(8) Section 22-33 ("Suspension or revocation of license") is amended to add a new subsection (8) to read: **The applicant, licensee or person in control of the business has violated a condition of any permit or license issued by the license official or by the State.**

(9) Section 22-33 ("Suspension or revocation of license") is amended to add a new subsection (9) to read: **The activity or activities for which the license was issued are no longer the activity or activities for which the business operates to the detriment of the public.**

This Ordinance shall be effective upon approval on second and final reading.

ADOPTED IN COUNCIL ASSEMBLED THIS 19TH DAY OF AUGUST 2025.

CITY OF SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA

David P. Merchant, Mayor

James B. Blassingame, Mayor Pro Tempore

Calvin K. Hastie, Sr., Councilman

Colin C. Davis, Councilman

Gifford M. Shaw, Councilman

Anthony Gibson, Councilman

Rebecca Lynn Kennedy, Councilwoman

ATTEST:

Linda D. Hammett, City Clerk

First Reading: August 5, 2025

Second/Final Reading: August 19, 2025