

I assent.

(L.S.)

J. J. CREMONA
Acting President

9th May, 1980

ACT No. XV of 1980

AN ACT further to amend the Spirits Ordinance, Cap. 64.

BE IT ENACTED by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Spirits (Amendment) Act, 1980, and shall be read and construed as one with the Spirits Ordinance, hereinafter referred to as “the principal law”.

Amendment of
section 2 of
the principal
law.

2. In section 2 of the principal law, for the definition of “proof” there shall be substituted the following:

“ “degrees Gay Lussac (° G.L.)” means the alcoholic strength by volume of a mixture of water and ethanol expressed as parts of alcohol per 100 parts of the mixture, such alcoholic strength being ascertained by means of an alcohol hydrometer in accordance with International Alcohol Tables;”.

Amendment of
section 12 of
the principal
law.

3. In subsection (1) of section 12 of the principal law for the words “one gallon” there shall be substituted “five litres”.

Amendment of
section 14 of
the principal
law.

4. In subsection (5) of section 14 of the principal law for the word “proof” there shall be substituted “57° Gay Lussac”.

Amendment of
section 15 of
the principal
law.

5. In paragraphs (c) and (e) of subsection (1) of section 15 of the principal law for the word “gallons” wherever it occurs there shall be substituted in each case the word “litres”.

Amendment of section 23 of the principal law.

10. For subsection (1) of section 23 of the principal law there shall be substituted the following:

“23. (1) Every distiller must keep in his distillery a stock-book, which shall be in the following form and shall contain the following information —

Date	Balance from last account	Quantity from spirit receiver				Delivered			
	Litres at 57° G.L.	Liquid litres	Strength in degrees Gay Lussac	Litres at 57° G.L.	Date	Liquid litres	Strength in degrees Gay Lussac	Litres at 57° G.L.	To whom sent or for what purpose used”.

Amendment of section 31 of the principal law.

11. Section 31 of the principal law shall be amended as follows:

(a) in subsection (2) thereof, for the words “one hundred gallons” there shall be substituted “four hundred and fifty litres”, and

(b) in subsection (4) thereof, for the words “twenty-five gallons” there shall be substituted “one hundred litres”.

Amendment of section 33 of the principal law.

12. Section 33 of the principal law shall be amended as follows:

(a) in subsection (1) thereof, for the words “twenty-five gallons” there shall be substituted “one hundred litres”, and

(b) in subsection (2) thereof, for the words “five gallons” and “forty-five gallons” there shall be substituted respectively “twenty litres” and “two hundred litres”.

Amendment of section 34 of the principal law.

13. Section 34 of the principal law shall be amended as follows:

(a) in subsection (2) thereof, for the word “proof” there shall be substituted “57° Gay Lussac”, and

(b) in subsection (3) thereof, for the word “proof” there shall be substituted “57° Gay Lussac”.

Amendment of section 35 of the principal law.

14. Subsection (1) of section 35 of the principal law shall be amended as follows:

(a) in paragraph (c) thereof, for the words “in proof” there shall be substituted “at 57° Gay Lussac”, and

(2) A book to be called “Warrant Book” shall also be kept at every spirit warehouse in the following form —

Receipt account						Delivery account						Deficiencies																	
	Date of warehousing		Marks and Nos.		Capacity in litres		Liquid litres		Strength in degrees Gay Lussac		Litres at 57° Gay Lussac		Bung		Wet centimetres		Liquid litres		Temperature in degrees Celcius		Indication in degrees Gay Lussac		Strength in degrees Gay Lussac		Litres at 57° Gay Lussac		Allowed litres at 57° Gay Lussac		Charged litres at 57° Gay Lussac

(Date of delivery)

(Signature of Officer) ”.

Amendment of section 50 of the principal law.

19. In subsection (1) of section 50 of the principal law for the words “nine gallons” and “twenty-five gallons” there shall be substituted respectively “forty litres” and “one hundred litres”.

Amendment of section 51 of the principal law.

20. In subsection (1) of section 51 of the principal law for the words “two gallons” there shall be substituted “ten litres”.

Amendment of section 52 of the principal law.

21. In section 52 of the principal law for the words “two gallons” there shall be substituted “ten litres”.

Amendment of section 54 of the principal law.

22. In paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 54 of the principal law for the words “gallons at proof” there shall be substituted “litres at 57° Gay Lussac”.

Amendment of section 58 of the principal law.

23. Section 58 of the principal law shall be amended as follows:
(a) in subsection (2) thereof, for the word “gallons” there shall be substituted “litres”, and
(b) in subsection (9) thereof, for the word “proof” there shall be substituted “57° Gay Lussac”.

24. In subsections (1) and (2) of section 60 of the principal law, for the words “gallons of spirits at proof by Sykes’s hydrometer (London proof)” there shall be substituted “litres of spirits at 57° Gay Lussac by hydrometer”. Amendment of section 60 of the principal law.
25. In subsection (1) of section 62 of the principal law, the word “Sykes’s” shall be deleted. Amendment of section 62 of the principal law.
26. For subsection (2) of section 63 of the principal law there shall be substituted the following new subsection:
 “(2) If the quantity of spirits computed at 57° Gay Lussac found on taking the account exceeds the quantity which, according to the stock-book of the dealer or retailer, ought to be in his possession, the excess shall be liable to be forfeited, and the dealer or retailer shall be liable to a fine (*multa*) not exceeding one hundred pounds and to a further fine (*multa*) of ten cents for every litre of the excess.” Amendment of section 63 of the principal law.
27. In section 64 of the principal law, for the word “proof” there shall be substituted “57° Gay Lussac”. Amendment of section 64 of the principal law.
28. Section 67 of the principal law shall be amended as follows:
 (a) for subsection (1) thereof there shall be substituted the following new subsection:
 “(1) Every person unlawfully possessing spirits shall be liable to a fine (*multa*) not exceeding one hundred pounds and to a further fine (*multa*) of ten cents for every litre or part of a litre of spirits so possessed, and such spirits may be seized and shall be liable to be forfeited.”; and
 (b) in subsection (2) thereof for the words “two gallons” there shall be substituted “ten litres”. Amendment of section 67 of the principal law.
29. In subsection (1) of section 82 of the principal law, for the words “two gallons” there shall be substituted “ten litres”. Amendment of section 82 of the principal law.
30. In sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph 2 of the Schedule to the principal law, for the words “three inches” there shall be substituted “7.6 centimetres”. Amendment of Schedule to the principal law.

Passed by the House of Representatives at Sitting No. 392 of the 7th May, 1980.

C. AGIUS
Speaker

C. MIFSUD
Clerk to the House of Representatives