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The following Bill which will be introduced in the National Assembly is published for general information.

*F. A. Narain,*  
Clerk of the National Assembly.



## GUYANA

BILL NO. 25 OF 1992

SPIRITS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992

### ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

#### SECTION

1. Short title.
2. Amendment of section 2 of the Principal Act.
3. Amendment of section 12 of the Principal Act.

4. Amendment of section 14 of the Principal Act.
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10. Amendment of section 23 of the Principal Act.
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19. Amendment of section 38 of the Principal Act.
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37. Amendment of section 89 of the Principal Act.
38. Amendment of section 105 of the Principal Act.
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40. Amendment of section 125 of the Principal Act.
41. Amendment of section 126 of the Principal Act.
42. Amendment of the Schedule to the Principal Act.

## A BILL

### Intituled

AN ACT to amend the Spirits Act.

A. D. 1992

Enacted by the Parliament of Guyana :—

Short title.

1. This Act, which amends the Spirits Act, may be cited as

Cap. 82:24

the Spirits (Amendment) Act 1992.

2. Section 2 of the Principal Act is hereby amended as follows —

Amendment  
of section  
2 of the  
Principal  
Act.

(a) by the renumbering of it as subsection (1) thereof and by the insertion, after subsection (1) as so renumbered, of the following subsection as subsection (2)—

“(2) For the purposes of this Act —

- (a) except where some other measure of quantity is specified, any computation of the quantity of any liquor or of the alcohol contained in any liquor shall be made in terms of the volume of the liquor or alcohol, as the case may be;
- (b) any computation of the volume of any liquor or of the alcohol contained in any liquor shall be made in litres as at 20° celsius; and
- (c) the alcoholic strength of any liquor is the ratio of the volume of the alcohol contained in the liquor to the volume of the liquor (inclusive of the alcohol contained in it);

(b) in subsection (1), as so renumbered —

(b) (i) by the insertion after the words “In this Act—” of the following definition —

“‘alcohol’ means ethyl alcohol’;

(ii) by the deletion of the definition of “gallon”;

(iii) by the insertion after the definition of “Government Analyst” of the following definition —

“‘litre’ means the litre as defined by any written law’;

(iv) by the deletion of the definition of “proof”; and

(v) by the insertion after the definition of “still” of the following definition —

“‘strength’ in relation to any liquor means its alcoholic strength computed in accordance with subsection 2, the ratio referred to in paragraph (c) thereto being expressed as a percentage”;

Amendment  
of section  
12 of the  
Principal  
Act.

3. Section 12 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the word "gallon" of the words "four decimal five litres".

Amendment  
of section  
14 of the  
Principal  
Act.

4. Subsection (1) of section 14 of the Principal Act is hereby amended, by the substitution for the word "quart" of the word "litre".

Amendment  
of section  
15 of the  
Principal  
Act.

5. Subsection (1) of section 15 of the Principal Act is hereby amended, by the substitution for the words "one gallon" of the words "four decimal five litres".

Amendment  
of section  
17 of the  
Principal  
Act.

6. Subsection (5) of section 17 of the Principal Act is hereby amended, by the substitution for the words "spirits at proof" of the words "alcohol in the spirits".

Amendment  
of section  
18 of the  
Principal  
Act.

7. Section 18 of the Principal Act is hereby amended in the following respects —

- (a) in subsections (1) (c) (i) and (ii) and (e) by the substitution for the word "gallon" of the word "litres"; and
- (b) in subsection (2), by the substitution for the words "imperial gallon" of the word "litre";

Amendment  
of section  
21 of the  
Principal  
Act.

8. Subsection (1) of section 21 of the Principal Act is hereby amended, by the substitution for the words "nine tenths of a gallon of spirits at proof for each five degrees of attenuation on each hundred gallons" of the words "one litre of alcohol for each nine decimal seven degrees of attenuation on each hundred litres":

Amendment  
of section  
22 of the  
Principal  
Act.

9. Section 22 of the Principal Act is hereby amended, in the following respects —

- (a) in subsections (1) and (2) by the substitution for the word "Sikes" of the words "an approved alcohol", and
- (b) in subsection 4 by the substitution for the words "four degrees of strength" of the words "two decimal three percent alcohol" and for the word "Sikes" of the words "an approved alcohol".

Amendment  
of section  
23 of the  
Principal  
Act.

10. Subsection (1) of section 23 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the deletion of the form thereto and the substitution of the following form therefor —

		PERIOD FROM		TO	
		WASH ACCOUNT		SPIRIT ACCOUNT	
		WASH SET UP	WASH ATTENUATED	SPIRIT MANUFACTURED	
				REMARKS	
	DATE				
	Number of Vat				
	Number of Litres				
	Specific gravity before fermentation				
	Temperature of Wash				
	Specific gravity after fermentation				
	Temperature of Wash				
	Number of degrees attenuated				
	DATE				
	Number of Vats distilled				
	Litres of Wash distilled				
a	Litres of Spirit from Still				
a	Temperature				
a	Hvdrometer Indication				
a	Strength				
a	Thermal Correction Factor				
a	Liquid Quantity at 20° C				
a	Litres of Alcohol at 20° C				
a	Average attenuation of wash				
a	Return of Litres of alcohol per cent of wash per 9.7 degrees of attenuation				

(a) To be filled in by the Comptroller when delivering from receiver to distiller.

Amendment  
of section  
24 of the  
Principal  
Act.

11. Subsection (1) of section 24 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the deletion of the form thereto and the substitution of the following Form therefor —

		DATE
	Litres of alcohol at 20° C	BALANCE FROM LAST ACCOUNT
	Liquid quantity (litres)	QUANTITY FROM SPIRIT RECEIVER
	Temperature	
	Indication	
	Strength	
	Thermal correction factor	
	Liquid quantity at 20° C	
	Litres of alcohol at 20° C	
	DATE	
	Liquid quantity (litres)	
	Temperature	
	Indication	
	Strength	
	Thermal correction factor	
	Liquid quantity at 20° C	
	Litres of alcohol at 20° C	
	To whom sent on for what purpose used	

12. Subsection (4) of section 26 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the words "twenty-five gallons" of the words "one hundred and thirteen litres".

Amendment of section 26 of the Principal Act.

13. Section 29 of the Principal Act is hereby amended in the following respects —

Amendment of section 29 of the Principal Act.

- (a) in subsection (2), by the substitution for the word "gallons" of the word "litres"; and
- (b) in subsection (3), by the substitution for the words "gallons per inch and tenths of an inch" of the words "litres per centimetre and two-tenths of a centimetre".

14. Section 31 of the Principal Act is hereby amended in the following respects —

Amendment of section 31 of the Principal Act.

- (a) in subsection (1), by the substitution for the words "imperial gallon" of the word "litre"; and
- (b) in subsection (2) by the substitution for the words "twelve hundred weight in both places where they occur of the words "six hundred and ten kilograms" and for the word "imperial" of the word "metric".

15. Subsection (1), of section 32 of the Principal Act is hereby amended in the following respects —

Amendment of section 32 of the Principal Act.

- (a) by the substitution for the word "gallons" where it first occurs, of the word "litre"; and
- (b) by the deletion of the words beginning with "and, if" and ending with "entire gallons".

16. Section 34 of the Principal Act is hereby amended in the following respects —

Amendment of section 34 of the Principal Act.

- (a) in subsection (1) (c), by the substitution for the word "proof" of the words "litres of alcohol"; and
- (b) in subsections (1) (e) and (f), by the substitution for the words "spirit at proof" wherever they occur of the word "alcohol".

17. Subsections (1), (2) and (3) of section 35 of the Principal Act are hereby amended, by the substitution for the words "spirits at proof" wherever they occur of the word "alcohol".

Amendment of section 35 of the Principal Act.

Amendment  
of section  
37 of the  
Principal  
Act.

18. Section 37 of the Principal Act is hereby amended in the following respects —

- (a) in subsection (1), by the substitution for the words "twenty-five gallons" of the words "one hundred and thirteen litres"; and
- (b) in the proviso to subsection (2), by the substitution for the words "five gallons" and "forty-five gallons" of the words "twenty-two litres" and "two hundred and four litres", respectively.

Amendment  
of section  
38 of the  
Principal  
Act.

19. Section 38 of the Principal Act is hereby amended in the following respects —

- (a) in subsection (2), by the substitution for the words "spirits at proof" of the word "alcohol";
- (b) in subsection (3), by the substitution for the words "spirits, computed at proof" of the word "alcohol"; and
- (c) in paragraph (a) of the proviso to subsection (3), by the substitution for the words "sixty percent over-proof" in both places where they occur of the words "ninety-one decimal three percent alcohol".

Amendment  
of section  
39 of the  
Principal  
Act.

20. Subsection (1) of section 39 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the words "spirits computed at proof" of the word "alcohol".

Amendment  
of section  
42 of the  
Principal  
Act.

21. Subsection (2) of section 42 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the word "gallon" of the words "four decimal five litres".

Amendment  
of section  
43 of the  
Principal  
Act.

22. Subsection (3) of section 43 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the words "spirit at proof" in both places where they occur of the word "alcohol".

Amendment  
of section  
53 of the  
Principal  
Act.

23. Section 53 of the Principal Act is hereby amended in the following respects —

- (a) in subsection (1), by the substitution for the form thereto of the following form therefor —



(b) in subsection (2), by the substitution for the form thereof of the following form therefor —

ACCOUNT FOR RECEIPT	
	Date of Receipt
	Number and mark on cask
	Capacity
	Wet Centimetres
	Liquid quantity (litres)
	Temperature
	Indication
	Strength
	Thermal correction factor
	Liquid quantity at 20° C
	Litres of alcohol at 20° C
ACCOUNT FOR DELIVERY	
	Date of Delivery
	Liquid quantity (litres)
	Temperature
	Indication
	Strength
	Thermal correction factor
	Liquid quantity at 20° C
	Litres of alcohol at 20° C
	Deficiencies
	Allowed
	Charged with duty

	Date of Delivery	RECEIPT ACCOUNT	
	Marks and numbers		
	Capacity		
	Liquid quantity (litres)		
	Temperature		
	Indication		
	Strength		
	Thermal correction/factor		
	Liquid quantity at 20° C		
	Litres of alcohol at 20° C		
	Bung		DELIVERY ACCOUNT
	Wet Centimetres		
	Liquid quantity (litres)		
	Temperature		
	Indication		
	Strength		
	Thermal correction/factor		
	Liquid quantity at 20° C		
	Litres of alcohol at 20° C	DEFICIENCES	
	Allowed litres of alcohol		
	Charged litres of alcohol		

24. Subsection (1) of section 54 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the words "twenty-five gallons" wherever they occur of the words "one hundred and thirteen litres".

Amendment of section 54 of the Principal Act.

25. Section 55 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the words "two gallons" of the words "nine litres".

Amendment of section 55 of the Principal Act.

26. Subsection (4) (a) of section 57 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the words "gallons at proof" of the words "litres of alcohol".

Amendment of section 57 of the Principal Act.

27. Subsection (2) of section 61 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the word "gallons" of the word "litres".

Amendment of section 61 of the Principal Act.

28. Subsection (1) of section 63 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the word "gallons" of the word "litres".

Amendment of section 63 of the Principal Act.

29. Subsection (1) of section 64 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the word "Sikes" of the words "an approved alcohol".

Amendment of section 64 of the Principal Act.

30. Subsection (2) of section 65 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the words "spirits computed at proof" and the word "gallon" of the words "alcohol" and "four decimal five litres", respectively.

Amendment of section 65 of the Principal Act.

31. Section 66 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the words "spirit at proof" of the word "alcohol".

Amendment of section 66 of the Principal Act.

32. Subsection (1) of section (7 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the words "gallons of spirits at proof" of the words "litres of alcohol".

Amendment of section 67 of the Principal Act.

33. Subsection (2) of section 75 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the words "twenty-five gallons" and "forty percent above proof" of the words "one hundred and thirteen litres" and "seventy-nine decimal nine percent alcohol", respectively.

Amendment of section 75 of the Principal Act.

34. Subsection (1) of section 76 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the words "five gallons" of the words "twenty-two litres".

Amendment of section 76 of the Principal Act.

35. Subsection (1) of section 77 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the words "at proof" of the words "in litres of alcohol".

Amendment of section 77 of the Principal Act.

Amendment  
of section  
78 of the  
Principal  
Act.

36. Section 78 of the Principal Act is hereby amended in the following respects —

- (a) in subsection (1) (c), by the substitution for the words "fifty gallons" of the words "two hundred and twenty-seven litres";
- (b) in subsection (1) (e), by the substitution for the words "five gallons" of the words "twenty-two litres";
- (c) in subsection (2) (a), by the substitution for the words "fifty gallons" and "five gallons" of the words "two hundred and twenty-seven litres" and "twenty-two litres", respectively; and
- (d) in the marginal note to subsection (2) (a), by the substitution for the words "50 gals" of the "227 litres".

Amendment  
of section  
89 of the  
Principal  
Act.

37. Section 89 of the Principal Act is hereby amended in the following respects —

- (a) in subsection (2), by the substitution for the words "a pint" of the words "five hundred and sixty-eight millilitres"; and
- (b) in subsection (2) (c), by the substitution for the word "quarts" of the word "litres".

Amendment  
of section  
105 of the  
Principal  
Act.

38. Section 105 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the words "three miles" of the words "twelve miles".

Amendment  
of section  
106 of the  
Principal  
Act.

39. Section 106 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the words "one reputed pint" of the words "three hundred and seventy-eight millilitres".

Amendment  
of section  
125 of the  
Principal  
Act.

40. The Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for section 125 of the following section therefor —

"Mode of  
ascertaining  
strength of  
spirits

"125. All spirits shall be deemed to be of the strength indicated by an approved alcohol hydrometer as ascertained by the officer in accordance with the International Alcoholmetric Tables printed under the authority of the International Organisation of Legal Metrology and entitled "Practical Alcohol Tables Volume 2" and in accordance with any certificate of corrections issued by the Government Analyst under section 127."

Amendment  
of section  
126 of the  
Principal  
Act.

41. Section 126 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the word "Sikes" of the words "an approved alcohol".

Amendment  
the Sched-  
ule of the  
Principal  
Act.

42. Paragraph 2 of the Schedule to the Principal Act is hereby amended by the substitution for the words "three inches" of the words "seven decimal six centimetres".

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the Spirits Act, Cap. 82:24, to change the mode by which the strength of any liquor is determined so as to conform with the International Organisation of Legal Metrology (OIML) system of Alcoholometry. As a result of the amendment sought to be made, all units of Imperial weights and measures pertaining to goods containing alcohol are changed to Metric Units.

*Carl B. Greenidge,*  
Minister of Finance.