436.1603 Interest in business of other vendor prohibited; placing stock in portfolio under arrangement, trust agreement, or investment trust agreement; issuance and sale of participating shares within state; prohibitions; sale of brandy and spirits by manufacturer or small distiller; conditions; sale by small distiller; interest of brewpub in other locations; interest in business of other supplier; approval pursuant to R 436.1023(3); interest of manufacturer in wholesaler prohibited; delivery of wine by wine maker to retail licensees prohibited; tiers; application of subsection (13); definitions.

Sec. 603. (1) Except as provided in subsections (6) to (14) and section 605, a supplier, warehouser, or wholesaler shall not have any direct or indirect financial interest in the establishment, maintenance, operation, or promotion of the business of any other vendor.

(2) Except as provided in subsections (6) to (14) and section 605, a supplier, warehouser, or wholesaler or a stockholder of a supplier, warehouser, or wholesaler shall not have any direct or indirect interest by ownership in fee, leasehold, mortgage, or otherwise in the establishment, maintenance, operation, or promotion of the business of any other vendor.

(3) Except as provided in subsections (6) to (14) and section 605, a supplier, warehouser, or wholesaler shall not have any direct or indirect interest by interlocking directors in a corporation or by interlocking stock ownership in a corporation in the establishment, maintenance, operation, or promotion of the business of any other vendor.

(4) Except as provided in subsections (6) to (14) and section 605, a person shall not buy the stocks of a supplier, warehouser, or wholesaler and place the stock in any portfolio under an arrangement, written trust agreement, or form of investment trust agreement, issue participating shares based upon the portfolio, trust agreement, or investment trust agreement, and sell the participating shares within this state.

(5) The commission may approve a brandy manufacturer or small distiller to sell brandy and spirits made by that brandy manufacturer or small distiller in a restaurant for consumption on or off the premises if the restaurant is owned by the brandy manufacturer or small distiller or operated by another person under an agreement approved by the commission and is located on premises where the brandy manufacturer or small distiller is licensed. Brandy and spirits sold for consumption off the premises under this subsection must be sold at the uniform price established by the commission.

(6) The commission shall allow a small distiller to sell brands of spirits it manufactures for consumption on the licensed premises at that distillery.

(7) A brewpub may have an interest in up to 5 other brewpubs if the combined production of all the locations in which the brewpub has an interest does not exceed 18,000 barrels of beer per calendar year.

(8) This section does not prohibit a supplier from having any direct or indirect interest in any other supplier.

(9) The commission may approve the following under R 436.1023(3) of the Michigan Administrative Code, subject to the written approval of the United States Department of Treasury Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau:

(a) A wine maker participating with 1 or more wine makers in an alternating proprietor operation in accordance with 27 CFR 24.136.

(b) A brewer participating with 1 or more brewers in an alternating proprietor operation in accordance with 27 CFR 25.52.

(10) A manufacturer shall not have any direct or indirect interest in a wholesaler.

(11) A wine maker shall not collectively deliver wine, with any other wine maker, to retail licensees.

(12) Except for a licensed warehouser, all licensees in this state shall be separated into 3 distinct and independent tiers composed of the following:

(a) Supplier tier, comprising suppliers.

(b) Wholesaler tier, comprising wholesalers.

(c) Retailer tier, comprising retailers.

(13) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (14), beginning April 30, 2011, the commission shall not allow any of the following:

(a) A retailer to hold, directly or indirectly, a license in the wholesaler or supplier tier.

(b) A wholesaler to hold, directly or indirectly, a license in the retailer or supplier tier.

(c) A supplier to hold, directly or indirectly, a license in the wholesaler or retailer tier.

(14) Subsection (13) does not prohibit a class C, tavern, class A hotel, or class B hotel licensee from
receiving a brewpub license or a micro brewer or brewer from having an on-site restaurant.

(15) As used in this section:

(a) "Manufacturer" means, notwithstanding section 109(2), a wine maker, small wine maker, brewer, micro brewer, manufacturer of spirits, distiller, small distiller, brandy manufacturer, mixed spirit drink manufacturer, direct shipper, or a person licensed by the commission to perform substantially similar functions.

(b) "Supplier" means a manufacturer, mixed spirit drink manufacturer, outstate seller of beer, outstate seller of wine, outstate seller of mixed spirit drink, and vendor of spirits or a person licensed by the commission to perform substantially similar functions but does not include a master distributor.