

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021**

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**HOUSE BILL 211  
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/13/21  
Committee Substitute #2 Favorable 4/21/21**

Short Title: Reopen Bars and Restaurants.

(Public)

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Sponsors:

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Referred to:

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March 4, 2021

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO ALLOW ESTABLISHMENTS THAT SERVE FOOD AND DRINK TO  
2 OPERATE AND CONDUCT BUSINESS ACTIVITY PROVIDED CERTAIN  
3 CONDITIONS ARE MET.  
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5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** Notwithstanding prohibitions or restrictions imposed by any executive  
7 order issued by the Governor during a state of emergency under Article 1A of Chapter 166A of  
8 the General Statutes, any declaration of emergency issued by a municipality or county pursuant  
9 to G.S. 166A-19.22, or any municipal or county ordinance adopted pursuant to a declaration of  
10 emergency related to the public health emergency created by COVID-19, any (i) establishment  
11 that prepares or serves food or drink, as defined in and regulated under Part 6 of Article 8 of  
12 Chapter 130A of the General Statutes, (ii) private club or private bar, as defined by  
13 G.S. 18B-1000, (iii) winery permitted pursuant to G.S. 18B-1101 or G.S. 18B-1102, (iv)  
14 distillery permitted pursuant to G.S. 18B-1105, or (v) any other permittee that may serve malt  
15 beverages, unfortified wine, fortified wine, or mixed beverages for on-premises consumption  
16 pursuant to a permit under G.S. 18B-1001 may open and operate its food and drink service for  
17 on-premises consumption without additional restrictions provided all of the following apply:

- 18 (1) The establishment is properly licensed and permitted, and holds all necessary  
19 State and local regulatory permits, including, if applicable, any necessary  
20 ABC permits.  
21 (2) The establishment (i) requires every employee of the establishment to  
22 self-administer or undergo a temperature check daily prior to beginning work,  
23 (ii) requires that every employee answer a health questionnaire about known  
24 contacts or exposure to COVID-19 provided by the establishment prior to  
25 beginning work, and (iii) prohibits any employee a reasonable person would  
26 identify as showing respiratory illness symptoms, COVID-19 symptoms, or  
27 presenting to work with a fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher from  
28 entering the establishment to work.  
29 (3) The establishment performs frequent and routine environmental cleaning and  
30 disinfection of high-touch areas with EPA-approved disinfectant for  
31 SARS-CoV-2.  
32 (4) If the establishment offers buffet-style service or self-service, the  
33 establishment must provide disposable gloves and require masks to be worn  
34 while guests and employees are using the buffet-style service or self-service  
35 areas. No beverages shall be self-served.



1                   (5)     The establishment limits the number of guests at each table to no more than  
2                             10 seated together at the same time, unless more than 10 guests are members  
3                             of the same household.

4                   **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and expires upon the  
5 expiration or termination of all prohibitions and restrictions on the service of food and drink  
6 established pursuant to any executive order, declaration of emergency, or ordinance related to  
7 COVID-19 described in Section 1 of this act.