



Bill Title: Spirits Sampling in State and Contract Liquor Stores

Bill Number: ESHB 1202

Effective Date: July 22, 2011

Creates a new section in RCW 66.28; Amends RCW 66.16.070 and RCW 66.28.080.

Interim Policy: [BIP 05-2011](#)

Summary:

The measure creates a new section in RCW 66.28. The section establishes a pilot project to allow spirits sampling in state and contract liquor stores.

RCW 66.16.070 is amended to allow on-premises spirits sampling in 30 state and contract liquor stores.

RCW 66.28.080 is also amended to allow allows spirits sampling in state and contract liquor stores.

The pilot will take place between September 1, 2011 and September 1, 2012.

Pilot details:

- Thirty state and contract stores will participate in the pilot;
- Only one sampling event per week is permitted; and
- The pilot project locations shall be determined by the Board based on the following conditions:
 - Due consideration to the location of stores with respect to the proximity of places of worship, schools, and public institutions;
 - Due consideration to motor vehicle accident data in the proximity to store locations; and
 - Written notice by certified mail of the proposed spirits sampling to places of worship, schools, and public institutions within 500 feet of the store location proposed to offer spirits samples.

Samples may be conducted under the following conditions:

- Samples may be provided free of charge to persons age twenty-one and over;
- Each sample must be one-quarter ounce or less, up to a total of four samples per customer per day;
- Only sponsors may serve samples (sponsor means a domestic distiller, an accredited representative of a distiller, a manufacturer, importer, or distributor of spirituous liquor);
- Servers must have a mandatory alcohol training server permit (MAST);
- No person who is apparently intoxicated may sample spirits;
- The product provided for sampling must be available for sale at the store location where the sample occurs at the time of the sampling;
- Customers must remain in the sampling area while consuming samples; and
- The Board can prohibit sampling at a pilot project location that is within the boundaries of a Board-recognized alcohol impact area if sampling activities at the store are having an adverse effect on the reduction of chronic public inebriation in the area.

The WSLCB will report on the pilot project to the appropriate committee of the Legislature by December 1, 2012. The results must include a survey of liquor store managers.

Selection process for stores to participate in the pilot:

The Board will decide which stores will participate in the pilot.

Contact Information:

For specific questions, please contact Meagan Renick at the Purchasing Division, 360-664-1759 or mkr@liq.wa.gov.