

COLORADO

Department of Revenue

Enforcement Division - Liquor & Tobacco Physical Address: M 1881 Pierce Street F Lakewood, CO 80214 E

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June 1, 2016

Dear Liquor Industry Members, Local Clerks and Stakeholders:

In the past two years, the Colorado Department of Revenue (Department) and the Colorado Liquor Enforcement Division (Division) convened a liquor industry working group (LIWG) to discuss modifications to policy, rules and laws for liquor issues. After the LIWG made its recommendations, the Division then convened the rule making working group to look at specific rule modifications.

This year the Division has decided to have one seamless process and will only convene one Liquor Working Group (LWG) to work through the summer and fall for policy and rule discussions. Currently, the Division is waiting to see if SB16-197 will become law. If it does, the Division will convene a separate working group to focus only on items specified in SB16-197.

The 2016 Legislative session was active with liquor industry bills, which will require rule changes. In addition to scheduled rule review, a majority of the LWG's time and resources will be focused on ways to identify, design and implement rule changes in fall 2016. The following laws were passed by the Colorado Legislature and signed (or expected to be signed) by Governor John Hickenlooper:

- HB16-1042/Higher Education Brewery Exemption
- HB16-1084/Change in Definitions In Homebrew Laws
- HB16-1151/Additional Mitigating Violations
- HB16-1176/Employee Purchase Program for Wholesalers
- HB16-1271/Delivery for Limited Wineries
- HB16-1439/Lodging and Entertainment License
- SB16-143/Reduced License Fees

If SB16-197 becomes law, the LWG will review and recommend any rules changes necessary for its implementation. However, the working group that SB16-197 mandates will be separate from the LWG. The SB16-197 working group will focus on the specific mandates of SB16-197 apart from the work of the LWG.

The LWG will review and develop rules for powdered alcohol from last year's law requiring the Division to regulate this product. In addition, the Division is responsible for reviewing a portion of the rules each year. This year the Division and the LWG will review Regulations 47-500 through 47-900 as a part of the annual rule review process.

The first meeting of the LWG will be held on Friday, June 17, 2016, at 9 a.m. at the Liquor Enforcement Division:

1881 Pierce Street (Entrance B – Room 110) Lakewood, CO 80214 The LWG will be comprised of representatives from the following groups:

- City Government Colorado Attorney General's Office Colorado Legislature Community Prevention County Government Department of Revenue/Liquor Enforcement Law Enforcement Representative Liquor Attorney (2) Liquor – Brewery (Large) Liquor – Brewery (Small) Liquor – Brewpub Liquor – Convenience Store (Large) Liquor – Convenience Store (Small)
- Liquor Distillery (National View) Liquor – Distillery (State View) Liquor – Grocery Store (Large) Liquor – Grocery Store (Small) Liquor – Off Premises (Independent) Liquor – Off Premises (Statewide) Liquor – On Premises (Restaurants) Liquor – On Premises (Taverns) Liquor – Wholesaler (2) Liquor – Winery (National) Liquor – Winery (State) Member at Large

If you want to be a member of the LWG, please <u>click here</u> to register. Formal members of the LWG are the only members allowed to vote on specific recommendations. However, non-LWG members can actively participate in subgroups and provide input during each LWG meeting. The deadline for requesting to be a member of the LWG is Monday, June 13, 2016. Those selected will be notified by June 15, 2016.

If you have other issues you want to address during the LWG, there will be an opportunity to include those issues during your registration process. If you are not interested in being a LWG member but still want to submit ideas for consideration, email your request to <u>sandra.lowman@state.co.us</u> and include your name and contact information.

The first meeting will focus on evaluating and prioritizing issues the Division has identified and issues submitted by the liquor industry and assigning specific issues to subgroups. The deadline for submitting issues is June 15, 2016.

The Liquor Enforcement Division looks forward to working with the industry, local government and other stakeholders to enhance liquor enforcement in Colorado. If you have any questions, please contact Sandra at 303-205-2306.

Sincerely,

Patrick Maroney

Patrick Maroney Director Colorado Liquor Enforcement Division