



COLORADO

Department of Revenue

Specialized Business Group—
Liquor & Tobacco

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**Liquor Advisory Group
Public Comment Submissions
May 22, 2023**

Laura McGinley

Baja in the Rockies LLC

05/18/2023 Public Comment

Topic: Licensing Schedule

Hello - writing in to pitch a change in the way licenses are renewed for those of us with multiple locations and a master file with the state. Would love to have them all on one schedule renewal schedule (at a minimum), and grand dreams are to have them renewed on one form with one check for all. Would be so much more efficient. Thanks for the consideration.

Andrew Klosterman

Colorado Event Alliance

05/20/23 Public Comment

Topic: Retailer Event Licenses

Hello Licensing Subgroup,

My name is Andy Klosterman and I represent the Colorado Event Alliance (CEA), which has our members in events businesses here in Colorado. This group was started at the beginning of COVID to represent events businesses during that traumatic time and remains in place today. The CEA is currently forming a subcommittee of catering companies in Colorado to hopefully be a good sounding board for work on a catering license. Below is some of our initial research and findings and we plan to continue to support the Liquor Advisory Group with input as needed.

Currently Colorado trails other States in the U.S. fairly dramatically when it comes to event type liquor licenses. We researched other states online and found that there are about 40 states that currently have a catering or retailer event liquor license of some type. This effectively puts Colorado's event industry at a disadvantage in the market and creates a lack of licensee accountability at these events.

The subcommittee group discussed some initial outlines of how this could look like in Colorado to satisfy both Colorado's desire to modernize its liquor laws and to uphold stronger public safety standards and visibility. In very general terms we would suggest the following outline:

- A Retail Licensee can apply for a catering license/permit that would renew yearly. This permit would allow the licensee to sell and serve alcohol at an offsite location after submitting a temporary catering permit for each event.
- For each permit the licensee would send in an online form to State LED with basic event information. Information would also include a permission letter from the venue allowing access and regulatory control to Liquor Enforcement.
- Similarly to the current "Non profit special event liquor license," the permit would start and end at a specific date and time and require the licensee to maintain control and accountability of the area similarly and have the same privileges and restrictions.
- The retailer would be responsible and accountable for providing safe service during the duration of the event and could be held liable if infractions occur - both to the temporary permit and/or the main retail license.

Our group is happy to continue to provide more information and share what we have learned both here in Colorado and from our research.

Thanks so much for all the work you folks are putting into this group!
