



WORK UNDERWAY FOR 2024 LIQUOR OMNIBUS BILL

Although not “official“, every year at the Arizona Legislature there has traditionally been a “liquor omnibus bill.” This is a bill that is the result of the entire industry collaborating necessary changes to Arizona’s liquor laws, and then developing a consensus list of changes. Any objection by any member of the group removes the legislative item from the omnibus bill. The particular liquor interest can still have that separate subject introduced as a separate bill, but it no longer carries the title of a provision of the omnibus bill.

It is important for supporters of liquor industry measures to have their requested provisions in the omnibus bill, because the omnibus bill carries a certain amount of weight as having been pre-approved by the entire industry and at least not opposed by the DLLC.

Work on the 2024 omnibus bill began this past September. The industry group formulating the bill has met three times and will meet one more time in December. While the specific terms of the bill have not been formally adopted as yet, here are some of the provisions that will likely be included in the legislation:

- Clarification of the temporary extension of premises, adopting recommendations by the DLLC and by the League of Arizona Cities and Towns;
- Permitting series 6 and nine licenses to be “stacked.” This will allow both licenses to be sited simultaneously in place in a specific premise. While ALBA and the Arizona Food Marketing Alliance (grocery stores and convenience stores) are generally opposed to stacking, as a shortcut around valuable 6, 7 and 9 licenses, they do not oppose this stacking proposal, as it involves two quota licenses;
- Clarification for use of sampling requirements in series 9 establishments, including the degree, to which the sampling area needs to be separated from the remainder of the premises.

Possibly, also, there may be other proposed changes as well. We will write again when the omnibus bill has been finalized. One proposed change would allow craft brewers to have their product made by another brewer, under certain specified conditions. Secondly, there is a proposal to make a change in the “cocktails to go” program that would allow a restaurant to continue to operate in the program if 90% of its receipts were from food, even though its “to go” alcohol receipts exceeded 30% of the overall receipts of the restaurant. There has not yet been agreement by the liquor omnibus group on these two proposals, and they may or may not be included in the final draft of the liquor omnibus bill.

Don Isaacson

Attorney at Law
Isaacson Law Firm, P.C.

NO ONE OF US IS AS STRONG AS ALL OF US TOGETHER!

Sincerely,

Dave Delos
President
Arizona Licensed Beverage Association
ddelos@albainc.org
office (602) 285-1092

Follow us for updates!

