



ARIZONA LICENSED BEVERAGE ASSOCIATION

## **NEW LEGISLATIVE SESSION TO BEGIN IN JANUARY**

The 2024 legislative session will begin January 8, 2024. The Arizona Legislature convenes each year on the second Monday in January to meet in regular session. The purpose of the regular session is to have Arizona legislators consider any changes to Arizona's laws and to appropriate money for the operation of State government. While some states put limits on the length of their legislative sessions, Arizona does not. Therefore, the legislative session ends only when the Legislature deems that their work is done and does not end on any specific date. In recent years, the sessions have extended until the end of June, with the 2023 session extending until July 30.

For liquor legislation, the common committees in which liquor bills are considered in the House and Senate are the Commerce Committees. These committees meet weekly throughout the session and generally consider all business – related legislation introduced in the Legislature, as well as licensing – related proposals for individuals and entities. It is in those committees that bills are presented and considered in formal hearings. In these committees, testimony is presented on the bills, and the bills are often further amended with additional recommendations.

The 2024 legislative session will be a little bit different. While the House maintains its Commerce Committee chaired by Representative Justin Wilmeth, the Senate has eliminated their Commerce Committee. As a result, it is believed that liquor legislation will be considered in the Senate by the Senate Finance Committee, chaired by Senator J.D. Mesnard.

It is our understanding that Representative Matt Gress intends to be the sponsor of the 2024 omnibus liquor bill. That means that the bill will be considered first in the House of Representatives, assigned to the House Commerce Committee. Assuming that the omnibus liquor bill successfully passes through the House of Representatives, it will then begin the same process again in the Senate.

ALBA will closely follow the introduction of the bill, the assignment to Committee, the Committee hearings and the following legislative process. We will report progress in the ALBA newsletter.

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

Sincerely,

Dave Delos  
President  
Arizona Licensed Beverage Association

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