FINAL BILL REPORT HB 1351

C 107 L 13

Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Concerning the identification of wineries, breweries, and microbreweries on private labels.

Sponsors: Representatives Condotta and Hurst.

House Committee on Government Accountability & Oversight Senate Committee on Commerce & Labor

Background:

Washington's "tied house" laws regulate the relationship between liquor manufacturers, distributors ("industry members"), and retailers. In general, tied house laws are meant to regulate how liquor is marketed and prevent the vertical integration of the three tiers of the liquor industry. The general rule is that no industry member may advance, and no retailer may receive, moneys or moneys' worth under an agreement or by means of any other business practice or arrangement.

There are numerous exceptions to the tied house laws. One exception allows wineries to partner with retailers to create private label wines for restaurants and private clubs. The producers may be identified on the private labels.

Summary:

The exception to the tied house laws for private labeling is expanded. Wineries, breweries, microbreweries, certificate of approval holders, and retail licensees may create private labels for restaurants, private clubs, grocery stores, and beer and/or wine specialty shops.

Votes on Final Passage:

House 96 0 Senate 48 0

Effective: July 28, 2013

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