SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2800

State of Washington 66th Legislature 2020 Regular Session

By House Commerce & Gaming (originally sponsored by Representatives Kirby, Vick, and Eslick)

READ FIRST TIME 02/07/20.

1 AN ACT Relating to the performance of personal services by a 2 craft distillery, distiller, spirits certificate of approval holder, 3 or distributor; and amending RCW 66.28.310.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 Sec. 1. RCW 66.28.310 and 2019 c 149 s 1 are each amended to 6 read as follows:

(1) (a) Nothing in RCW 66.28.305 prohibits an industry member from providing retailers branded promotional items which are of nominal value, singly or in the aggregate. Such items include but are not limited to: Trays, lighters, blotters, postcards, pencils, coasters, menu cards, meal checks, napkins, clocks, mugs, glasses, bottles or can openers, corkscrews, matches, printed recipes, shirts, hats, visors, and other similar items. Branded promotional items:

14 (i) Must be used exclusively by the retailer or its employees in 15 a manner consistent with its license;

16 (ii) Must bear imprinted advertising matter of the industry 17 member only, except imprinted advertising matter of the industry 18 member can include the logo of a professional sports team which the 19 industry member is licensed to use; 1 (iii) May be provided by industry members only to retailers and 2 their employees and may not be provided by or through retailers or 3 their employees to retail customers; and

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(iv) May not be targeted to or appeal principally to youth.

5 (b) An industry member is not obligated to provide any such 6 branded promotional items, and a retailer may not require an industry 7 member to provide such branded promotional items as a condition for 8 selling any alcohol to the retailer.

(c) Any industry member or retailer or any other person asserting 9 that the provision of branded promotional items as allowed in (a) of 10 this subsection has resulted or is more likely than not to result in 11 12 undue influence or an adverse impact on public health and safety, or is otherwise inconsistent with the criteria in (a) of this subsection 13 may file a complaint with the board. Upon receipt of a complaint the 14 board may conduct such investigation as it deems appropriate in the 15 16 circumstances. If the investigation reveals the provision of branded 17 promotional items has resulted in or is more likely than not to result in undue influence or has resulted or is more likely than not 18 to result in an adverse impact on public health and safety or is 19 otherwise inconsistent with (a) of this subsection the board may 20 21 issue an administrative violation notice to the industry member, to 22 the retailer, or both. The recipient of the administrative violation notice may request a hearing under chapter 34.05 RCW. 23

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(2) Nothing in RCW 66.28.305 prohibits:

(a) An industry member from providing to a special occasionlicensee and a special occasion licensee from receiving services for:

27 (i) Installation of draft beer dispensing equipment or 28 advertising;

(ii) Advertising, pouring, or dispensing of beer or wine at a
 beer or wine tasting exhibition or judging event; or

31 (iii) Pouring or dispensing of spirits by a licensed domestic 32 distiller or the accredited representative of a distiller, 33 manufacturer, importer, or distributor of spirituous liquor licensed 34 under RCW 66.24.310; or

35 (b) Special occasion licensees from paying for beer, wine, or 36 spirits immediately following the end of the special occasion event; 37 or

38 (c) Wineries, breweries, or distilleries that are participating 39 in a special occasion event from paying reasonable booth fees to the 40 special occasion licensee. 1 (3) Nothing in RCW 66.28.305 prohibits industry members from performing, and retailers from accepting the service of building, 2 rotating, and restocking displays and stockroom inventories; rotating 3 and rearranging can and bottle displays of their own products; 4 providing point of sale material and brand signs; pricing case goods 5 6 of their own brands; and performing such similar business services consistent with board rules, or personal services as described in 7 subsection (5) of this section. 8

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(4) Nothing in RCW 66.28.305 prohibits:

(a) Industry members from listing on their internet web sites
information related to retailers who sell or promote their products,
including direct links to the retailers' internet web sites;

13 (b) Retailers from listing on their internet web sites 14 information related to industry members whose products those 15 retailers sell or promote, including direct links to the industry 16 members' web sites;

17 (C) Manufacturers, distributors, or their licensed representatives from using web sites or social media accounts in 18 19 their name to post, repost, or share promotional information or images about events featuring a product of the manufacturer's own 20 production or a product sold by the distributor, held at an on-21 premises licensed liquor retailer's location or a licensed special 22 23 occasion event. The promotional information may include links to purchase event tickets. Manufacturers, distributors, or their 24 25 licensed representatives may not pay a third party to enhance viewership of a specific post. Industry members, or their licensed 26 representatives, are not obligated to post, repost, or share 27 28 information or images on a web site or on social media. A licensed liquor retailer may not require an industry member or their licensed 29 representative to post, repost, or share information or images on a 30 31 web site or on social media as a condition for selling any alcohol to 32 the retailer or participating in a retailer's event; or

33 (d) Industry members and retailers from producing, jointly or 34 together with regional, state, or local industry associations, 35 brochures and materials promoting tourism in Washington state which 36 contain information regarding retail licensees, industry members, and 37 their products.

38 (5) Nothing in RCW 66.28.305 prohibits the performance of 39 personal services offered from time to time by a domestic winery or 40 certificate of approval holder to retailers when the personal

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1 services are (a) conducted at a licensed premises, and (b) intended to inform, educate, or enhance customers' knowledge or experience of 2 the manufacturer's products. The performance of personal services may 3 include participation and pouring, bottle signing events, and other 4 similar informational or educational activities at the premises of a 5 6 retailer holding a spirits, beer, and wine restaurant license, a wine 7 and/or beer restaurant license, a specialty wine shop license, a special occasion license, a grocery store license with a tasting 8 endorsement, or a private club license. A domestic winery or 9 certificate of approval holder is not obligated to perform any such 10 11 personal services, and a retail licensee may not require a domestic 12 winery or certificate of approval holder to conduct any personal service as a condition for selling any alcohol to the retail 13 licensee, or as a condition for including any product of the domestic 14 winery or certificate of approval holder in any tasting conducted by 15 16 the licensee. Except as provided in RCW 66.28.150, the cost of 17 sampling may not be borne, directly or indirectly, by any domestic winery or certificate of approval holder or any distributor. Nothing 18 19 in this section prohibits wineries, breweries, microbreweries, certificate of approval holders, and retail licensees 20 from 21 identifying the producers on private labels authorized under RCW 66.24.400, 66.24.425, 66.24.450, 66.24.360, and 66.24.371. 22

(6) Nothing in RCW 66.28.305 prohibits an industry member from entering into an arrangement with any holder of a sports entertainment facility license or an affiliated business for brand advertising at the licensed facility or promoting events held at the sports entertainment facility as authorized under RCW 66.24.570.

28 (7) Nothing in RCW 66.28.305 prohibits the performance of personal services offered from time to time by a domestic brewery, 29 microbrewery, or beer certificate of approval holder to grocery store 30 31 licensees with a tasting endorsement when the personal services are 32 (a) conducted at a licensed premises in conjunction with a tasting event, and (b) intended to inform, educate, or enhance customers' 33 knowledge or experience of the manufacturer's products. The 34 performance of personal services may include participation and 35 36 pouring, bottle signing events, and other similar informational or educational activities. A domestic brewery, microbrewery, or beer 37 38 certificate of approval holder is not obligated to perform any such 39 personal services, and a grocery store licensee may not require the 1 performance of any personal service as a condition for including any 2 product in any tasting conducted by the licensee.

(8) Nothing in RCW 66.28.305 prohibits the performance of 3 personal services offered from time to time by a craft distillery, 4 distiller, or spirits certificate of approval holder to retailers 5 6 when the personal services are: (a) Conducted at a licensed premises, and (b) intended to inform, educate, or enhance customers' knowledge 7 or experience of the manufacturer's products. The performance of 8 personal services may include participation and pouring, bottle 9 10 signing events, and other similar informational or educational activities at the premises of a restaurant holding a spirits, beer, 11 and wine license, a special occasion license, or a private club 12 license. A craft distillery, distiller, or spirits certificate of 13 approval holder is not obligated to perform any such personal 14 15 services, and a retail licensee may not require a craft distillery, distiller, or spirits certificate of approval holder to conduct any 16 17 personal service as a condition for selling any alcohol to the retail licensee, or as a condition for including any product of the craft 18 19 distillery, distiller, or spirits certificate of approval holder in any tasting conducted by the licensee. Except as provided in RCW 20 66.28.150, the cost of sampling may not be borne, directly or 21 indirectly, by any craft distillery, distiller, or spirits 22 23 certificate of approval holder. The instruction of consumers may include the furnishing of not more than three tastings to any 24 25 individual in one day. A single tasting of distilled spirits may not 26 exceed one-half ounce.

27 <u>(9)</u> Nothing in RCW 66.28.305 prohibits an arrangement between a 28 domestic winery and a restaurant licensed under RCW 66.24.320 or 29 66.24.400 to waive a corkage fee.

(((9))) <u>(10)</u> Nothing in this section prohibits professional 30 31 sports teams who hold a retail liquor license or their agents from 32 accepting bona fide liquor advertising from manufacturers, importers, 33 distributors, or their agents for use in the sporting arena. Professional sports teams who hold a retail liquor license or their 34 agents may license the manufacturer, importer, distributor, or their 35 agents to use the name and trademarks of the professional sports team 36 in their advertising and promotions, under the following conditions: 37

(a) Such advertising must be paid for by said manufacturer,
 importer, distributor, or their agent at the published advertising
 rate or at a reasonable fair market value.

1 (b) Such advertising may carry with it no express or implied 2 offer on the part of the manufacturer, importer, distributor, or 3 their agent, or promise on the part of the retail licensee whose 4 operation is directly or indirectly part of the sporting arena, to 5 stock or list any particular brand of liquor to the total or partial 6 exclusion of any other brand.

7 (((10))) <u>(11)</u> Nothing in RCW 66.28.305 prohibits a licensed 8 domestic brewery or microbrewery from providing branded promotional 9 items which are of nominal value, singly or in the aggregate, to a 10 nonprofit charitable corporation or association exempt from taxation 11 under 26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code as it 12 existed on July 24, 2015, for use consistent with the purpose or 13 purposes entitling it to such exemption.

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