CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

HOUSE BILL 2240

60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

Passed by the House April 17, 2007
Yeas 97 Nays 0

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate April 10, 2007
Yeas 47 Nays 0

Chief Clerk

President of the Senate

Approved

Secretary of State
State of Washington

Secretary of State
State of Washington

Secretary of State
State of Washington

HOUSE BILL 2240

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2007 Regular Session

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Representatives Conway, Condotta and Kenney

State of Washington

19

Read first time 02/14/2007. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

- AN ACT Relating to allowing certain activities between domestic wineries, domestic breweries, microbreweries, certificate of approval holders, and retail sellers of beer or wine; amending RCW 66.28.150;
- 4 and reenacting and amending RCW 66.28.010.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 66.28.010 and 2006 c 330 s 28, 2006 c 92 s 1, and 2006 c 43 s 1 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:
- 8 (1)(a) No manufacturer, importer, distributor, or authorized person financially interested, directly or 9 representative, or 10 indirectly, in such business; whether resident or nonresident, shall have any financial interest, direct or indirect, in any licensed retail 11 12 business, unless the retail business is owned by a corporation in which 13 a manufacturer or importer has no direct stock ownership and there are no interlocking officers and directors, the retail license is held by 14 15 corporation that is not owned directly or indirectly by a manufacturer or importer, the sales of liquor are incidental to the 16 primary activity of operating the property as a hotel, alcoholic 17 beverages produced by the manufacturer or 18 importer or their

subsidiaries are not sold at the licensed premises, and the board

p. 1 HB 2240.PL

reviews the ownership and proposed method of operation of all involved 1 2 entities and determines that there will not be an unacceptable level of control or undue influence over the operation or the retail licensee; 3 nor shall any manufacturer, importer, distributor, or authorized 4 5 representative own any of the property upon which such licensed persons conduct their business; nor shall any such licensed person, under any 6 7 arrangement whatsoever, conduct his or her business upon property in manufacturer, importer, distributor, 8 or representative has any interest unless title to that property is owned 9 10 by a corporation in which a manufacturer has no direct stock ownership and there are no interlocking officers or directors, the retail license 11 12 is held by a corporation that is not owned directly or indirectly by 13 the manufacturer, the sales of liquor are incidental to the primary activity of operating the property either as a hotel or as an 14 amphitheater offering live musical and similar live entertainment 15 activities to the public, alcoholic beverages produced by the 16 manufacturer or any of its subsidiaries are not sold at the licensed 17 premises, and the board reviews the ownership and proposed method of 18 operation of all involved entities and determines that there will not 19 be an unacceptable level of control or undue influence over the 20 21 operation of the retail licensee. Except as provided in subsection (3) 22 of this section, no manufacturer, importer, distributor, or authorized representative shall advance moneys or moneys' worth to a licensed 23 24 person under an arrangement, nor shall such licensed person receive, 25 under an arrangement, an advance of moneys or moneys' worth. "Person" 26 as used in this section only shall not include those state or federally 27 chartered banks, state or federally chartered savings and loan associations, state or federally chartered mutual savings banks, or 28 institutional investors which are not controlled directly or indirectly 29 by a manufacturer, importer, distributor, or authorized representative 30 as long as the bank, savings and loan association, or institutional 31 32 investor does not influence or attempt to influence the purchasing practices of the retailer with respect to alcoholic beverages. Except 33 as otherwise provided in this section, no manufacturer, importer, 34 35 distributor, or authorized representative shall be eligible to receive 36 or hold a retail license under this title, nor shall such manufacturer, 37 importer, distributor, or authorized representative sell at retail any

liquor as herein defined. A corporation granted an exemption under this subsection may use debt instruments issued in connection with financing construction or operations of its facilities.

- (b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a licensed domestic brewery or microbrewery from being licensed as a retailer pursuant to chapter 66.24 RCW for the purpose of selling beer or wine at retail on the brewery premises and nothing in this section shall prohibit a domestic winery from being licensed as a retailer pursuant to chapter 66.24 RCW for the purpose of selling beer or wine at retail on the winery premises. Such beer and wine so sold at retail shall be subject to the taxes imposed by RCW 66.24.290 and 66.24.210 and to reporting and bonding requirements as prescribed by regulations adopted by the board pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW, and beer and wine that is not produced by the brewery or winery shall be purchased from a licensed beer or wine distributor.
- (c) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a licensed distiller, domestic brewery, microbrewery, domestic winery, or a lessee of a licensed domestic brewer, microbrewery, or domestic winery, from being licensed as a spirits, beer, and wine restaurant pursuant to chapter 66.24 RCW for the purpose of selling liquor at a spirits, beer, and wine restaurant premises on the property on which the primary manufacturing facility of the licensed distiller, domestic brewer, microbrewery, or domestic winery is located or on contiguous property owned or leased by the licensed distiller, domestic brewer, microbrewery, or domestic winery as prescribed by rules adopted by the board pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW.
- (d) Nothing in this section prohibits retail licensees with a caterer's endorsement issued under RCW 66.24.320 or 66.24.420 from operating on a domestic winery premises.
- (e) Nothing in this section prohibits an organization qualifying under RCW 66.24.375 formed for the purpose of constructing and operating a facility to promote Washington wines from holding retail licenses on the facility property or leasing all or any portion of such facility property to a retail licensee on the facility property if the members of the board of directors or officers of the board for the organization include officers, directors, owners, or employees of a licensed domestic winery. Financing for the construction of the facility must include both public and private money.

p. 3 HB 2240.PL

- (f) Nothing in this section prohibits a bona fide charitable nonprofit society or association registered as a 501(c)(3) under the internal revenue code and having an officer, director, owner, or employee of a licensed domestic winery or a wine certificate of approval holder on its board of directors from holding a special occasion license under RCW 66.24.380.
- (g)(i) Nothing in this section prohibits domestic wineries and retailers licensed under chapter 66.24 RCW from ((jointly)) producing jointly or together with regional, state, or local wine industry associations, brochures and materials promoting tourism in Washington state which contain information regarding retail licensees, domestic wineries, and their products.
- (ii) Nothing in this section prohibits: (A) Domestic wineries, domestic breweries, microbreweries, and certificate of approval holders licensed under this chapter 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; and (B) retailers licensed under this chapter from listing on their internet web sites information related to domestic wineries, domestic breweries, microbreweries, and certificate of approval holders whose products those retailers sell or promote, including direct links to the domestic wineries', domestic breweries', microbreweries', and certificate of approval holders' web sites.
- (h) Nothing in this section prohibits the performance of personal services offered from time to time by a domestic winery or certificate of approval holder licensed under RCW 66.24.206(1)(a) for or on behalf of a licensed retail business when the personal services are (i) conducted at a licensed premises, and (ii) intended to inform, educate, or enhance customers' knowledge or experience of the manufacturer's products. The performance of personal services may include participation and pouring at the premises of a retailer holding a spirits, beer, and wine restaurant license, a wine and/or beer restaurant license, or a speciality wine shop license; bottle signings; and other similar informational or educational activities. A domestic winery or certificate of approval holder is not obligated to perform any such personal services, and a retail licensee may not require a domestic winery or certificate of approval holder to conduct any personal service as a condition for selling any alcohol to the retail

licensee. Except as provided in RCW 66.28.150, the cost of sampling may not be borne, directly or indirectly, by any liquor manufacturer, importer, or distributor. Nothing in this section prohibits domestic wineries and retail licensees from identifying the wineries on private labels authorized under RCW 66.24.400, 66.24.425, and 66.24.450.

- (i) Until July 1, 2007, nothing in this section prohibits a nonprofit statewide organization of microbreweries formed for the purpose of promoting Washington's craft beer industry as a trade association registered as a 501(c) with the internal revenue service from holding a special occasion license to conduct up to six beer festivals.
- (2) Financial interest, direct or indirect, as used in this section, shall include any interest, whether by stock ownership, mortgage, lien, or through interlocking directors, or otherwise. Pursuant to rules promulgated by the board in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW manufacturers, distributors, and importers may perform, and retailers may accept the service of building, rotating and restocking case displays and stock room inventories; rotating and rearranging can and bottle displays of their own products; provide point of sale material and brand signs; price case goods of their own brands; and perform such similar normal business services as the board may by regulation prescribe.
- (3)(a) This section does not prohibit a manufacturer, importer, or distributor from providing services to a special occasion licensee for:
 (i) Installation of draft beer dispensing equipment or advertising,
 (ii) advertising, pouring, or dispensing of beer or wine at a beer or wine tasting exhibition or judging event, or (iii) a special occasion licensee from receiving any such services as may be provided by a manufacturer, importer, or distributor. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a retail licensee, or any person financially interested, directly or indirectly, in such a retail licensee from having a financial interest, direct or indirect, in a business which provides, for a compensation commensurate in value to the services provided, bottling, canning or other services to a manufacturer, so long as the retail licensee or person interested therein has no direct financial interest in or control of said manufacturer.
- (b) A person holding contractual rights to payment from selling a liquor distributor's business and transferring the license shall not be

p. 5 HB 2240.PL

- 1 deemed to have a financial interest under this section if the person
- 2 (i) lacks any ownership in or control of the distributor, (ii) is not
- 3 employed by the distributor, and (iii) does not influence or attempt to
- 4 influence liquor purchases by retail liquor licensees from the
- 5 distributor.
- 6 (c) The board shall adopt such rules as are deemed necessary to
 7 carry out the purposes and provisions of subsections (1)(g) and (h) and
 8 (3)(a) of this section in accordance with the administrative procedure
 9 act, chapter 34.05 RCW.
- 10 (4) A license issued under RCW 66.24.395 does not constitute a 11 retail license for the purposes of this section.
- 12 (5) A public house license issued under RCW 66.24.580 does not 13 violate the provisions of this section as to a retailer having an 14 interest directly or indirectly in a liquor-licensed manufacturer.
- 15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 66.28.150 and 2004 c 160 s 14 are each amended to read 16 as follows:

A domestic brewery, microbrewery, domestic winery, distillery, 17 distributor, certificate of approval holder, or its licensed agent may, 18 without charge, instruct licensees and their employees, or conduct 19 20 courses of instruction for licensees and their employees, including 21 chefs, on the subject of beer, wine, or spirituous liquor, including but not limited to, the history, nature, values, and characteristics of 22 23 beer, wine, or spirituous liquor, the use of wine lists, and the 24 methods of presenting, serving, storing, and handling beer, wine, or spirituous liquor, and what wines go well with different types of food. 25 26 The domestic brewery, microbrewery, domestic winery, distillery, distributor, certificate of approval holder, or its licensed agent may 27 furnish beer, wine, or spirituous liquor and such other equipment, 28 materials, and utensils as may be required for use in connection with 29 the instruction or courses of instruction. The instruction or courses 30 31 of instruction may be given at the premises of the domestic brewery, microbrewery, domestic winery, distillery, or authorized representative 32 33 holding a certificate of approval, at the premises of a retail 34 licensee, or elsewhere within the state of Washington.

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