

FINAL BILL REPORT

HB 2699

C 96 L 18
Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Exempting alcohol manufacturers from the food storage warehouse license.

Sponsors: Representatives Stanford, Dent, Blake, Nealey and Eslick.

House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources
Senate Committee on Labor & Commerce

Background:

A food storage warehouse is any establishment where food is stored, kept, or held for wholesale distribution, or any facility selling or distributing food to the ultimate consumer. In this context, "food" includes any articles used for food or drink. Food storage warehouses must be licensed by the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) unless they are inspected annually for compliance with current federal good manufacturing practices by a WSDA-approved independent sanitation consultant.

The Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB) is responsible for issuing various licenses for the manufacture, distribution, and sale of alcoholic beverages. The LCB may require an inspection of the premises upon application or renewal of any license, consider prior criminal history of an applicant, and may grant or deny a license application or renewal. Additionally, the LCB has the discretion to suspend or revoke licenses, subject to adjudicative proceedings, and must suspend licenses for licensees who:

- have been certified by the Department of Social and Health Services as being out of compliance with a support order; or
- are more than 30 days delinquent in reporting or remitting spirits taxes to the Department of Revenue.

Summary:

Food storage warehouses used to store alcohol beverages that are already licensed for manufacture or distribution by the LCB, and where alcohol beverages are the only food stored in the warehouse, are exempt from the requirement to obtain a food storage warehouse license from the WSDA.

Votes on Final Passage:

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

House 98 0
Senate 49 0

Effective: June 7, 2018