

---

**HOUSE BILL 2476**

---

**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2026 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Dufault and Corry

Read first time 01/14/26. Referred to Committee on Consumer Protection & Business.

1 AN ACT Relating to removing the requirement that a theater may  
2 have no more than 120 seats per screen to qualify for a spirits,  
3 beer, and wine theater license; and amending RCW 66.24.655.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 66.24.655 and 2025 c 343 s 49 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (1) There is a theater license to sell spirits, beer, including  
8 strong beer, or wine, or all, at retail, for consumption on theater  
9 premises. A spirits, beer, and wine theater license may be issued  
10 only to theaters that (~~have no more than 120 seats per screen and~~  
11 ~~that~~) are maintained in a substantial manner as a place for  
12 preparing, cooking, and serving complete meals and providing tabletop  
13 accommodations for in-theater dining. Requirements for complete meals  
14 are the same as those adopted by the board in rules pursuant to  
15 chapter 34.05 RCW for a spirits, beer, and wine restaurant license  
16 authorized by RCW 66.24.400. The annual fee for a spirits, beer, and  
17 wine theater license is \$2,500.

18 (2) If the theater premises is to be frequented by minors, an  
19 alcohol control plan must be submitted to the board at the time of  
20 application. The alcohol control plan must be approved by the board

1 and be prominently posted on the premises, prior to minors being  
2 allowed.

3 (3) For the purposes of this section:

4 (a) "Alcohol control plan" means a written, dated, and signed  
5 plan submitted to the board by an applicant or licensee for the  
6 entire theater premises, or rooms or areas therein, that shows where  
7 and when alcohol is permitted, where and when minors are permitted,  
8 and the control measures used to ensure that minors are not able to  
9 obtain alcohol or be exposed to environments where drinking alcohol  
10 predominates.

11 (b) "Theater" means a place of business where motion pictures or  
12 other primarily nonparticipatory entertainment are shown.

13 (4) The board must adopt rules regarding alcohol control plans  
14 and necessary control measures to ensure that minors are not able to  
15 obtain alcohol or be exposed to areas where drinking alcohol  
16 predominates. All alcohol control plans must include a requirement  
17 that any person involved in the serving of spirits, beer, and/or wine  
18 must have completed a mandatory alcohol server training program.

19 (5)(a) A licensee that is an entity that is exempt from taxation  
20 under Title 26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)(3) of the federal internal revenue  
21 code of 1986, as amended as of January 1, 2013, may enter into  
22 arrangements with a spirits, beer, or wine manufacturer, importer, or  
23 distributor for brand advertising at the theater or promotion of  
24 events held at the theater. The financial arrangements providing for  
25 the brand advertising or promotion of events may not be used as an  
26 inducement to purchase the products of the manufacturer, importer, or  
27 distributor entering into the arrangement and such arrangements may  
28 not result in the exclusion of brands or products of other companies.

29 (b) The arrangements allowed under this subsection (5) are an  
30 exception to arrangements prohibited under RCW 66.28.305. The board  
31 must monitor the impacts of these arrangements. The board may conduct  
32 audits of a licensee and the affiliated business to determine  
33 compliance with this subsection (5). Audits may include, but are not  
34 limited to: Product selection at the facility; purchase patterns of  
35 the licensee; contracts with the spirits, beer, or wine manufacturer,  
36 importer, or distributor; and the amount allocated or used for  
37 spirits, beer, or wine advertising by the licensee, affiliated  
38 business, manufacturer, importer, or distributor under the  
39 arrangements.

1           (6) The maximum penalties prescribed by the board in WAC  
2 314-29-020 relating to fines and suspensions are double for  
3 violations involving minors or the failure to follow the alcohol  
4 control plan with respect to theaters licensed under this section.

--- **END** ---