



Washington State  
**Liquor Control Board**

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**Liquor Control Board Interim Policy BIP-02-2013**

**Subject:** Beer and Wine Tasting at Farmer's Markets  
**Effective Date:** July 28, 2013  
**Ending Date:** Upon adoption of rules to implement this policy

**Approved:**

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Sharon Foster, Chairman

*Ruthann Kurose*  
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Ruthann Kurose, Board Member

*Chris Marr*  
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Chris Marr, Board Member

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**Purpose:**

SB 5674 passed in the 2013 legislative session and allows beer and wine tasting at Farmer's Markets. The bill outlines the criteria under which a Farmer's Market may be authorized to conduct tastings.

**Policy Statement:**

In order to be allowed beer and wine tasting at a Farmer's Market, the following criteria must be met:

- The Farmer's Market must be authorized to allow wineries, breweries, and microbreweries to sell bottled wine and/or beer at retail.
- The Farmer's Market must hold an endorsement to allow sampling of wine or beer or both.
- A winery, brewery, or microbrewery offering samples at a Farmer's Market must have an endorsement from the board to sell wine or beer of its own production at a Farmer's Market.
- No more than three wineries, breweries, microbreweries combined may offer samples at a qualifying Farmer's Market per day.
- A winery, brewery, or microbrewery may advertise that it offers samples only at its designated booth, stall, or anywhere within the Farmer's Market..

**Samples may be offered only under the following conditions:**

- Each sample must be two ounces or less, up to a total of two ounces per customer per day;
- Beer and wine samples are to be conducted in the booth or stall of the winery, brewery, or microbrewery with a barrier at least forty-two inches in height, where licensees are able to observe and control customers participating in the samples; the barriers may be moveable (an example would be ropes and stanchions);
- A winery, brewery, or microbrewery must have food available for customers to consume while sampling beer or wine, or must be adjacent to a vendor offering prepared food;
- Customers must remain in the designated sampling area while sampling beer or wine;
- Winery, brewery, or microbrewery employees serving beer and wine during tasting events must hold a valid MAST permit; and
- If a winery, brewery, or microbrewery commits a public safety violation in conjunction with sampling activities, the board may suspend the licensee's farmer's market endorsement for up to two years. If mitigating circumstances exist, the Board may offer a monetary penalty in lieu of suspension during a settlement conference.

The Farmer's Market is required to provide a sketch to Licensing Division of the area where beer and wine samples will be conducted and any adjacent food booths.

The Farmer's Market is also required to send a list of scheduled beer and wine samplings to the Liquor Control Board to [MIWenforce@liq.wa.gov](mailto:MIWenforce@liq.wa.gov) at the beginning of each month. The date for each beer and wine sampling, and the names of the winery, brewery, or microbrewery providing the samples must be included.