

Washington State Liquor Control Board

Issue Paper

Emergency Rules for Recreational Marijuana

Date: June 25, 2014

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Description of the Issue

The purpose of this Issue Paper is to request approval from the Board for emergency rules to clarify the types of marijuana-infused products the board will allow marijuana processor to produce and marijuana retailers to sell to consumers. The emergency rules also include a requirement for the board to approve all marijuana-infused products, packaging, and labeling, and clarification on the security and surveillance requirements at a marijuana licensed premises.

Why is rule making necessary?

Emergency rules are needed to provide additional clarity to the marijuana rules regarding marijuana-infused products, specifically products that are appealing to children. The mission of the board is to keep alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana out of the hands of youth. Many marijuana-infused products on the medical marijuana market today are appealing to children. Products such as lollipops, gummy bears, and cotton candy are very appealing to children too young to read a label. Security and surveillance systems at a marijuana licensed premises must ensure that all parts of the premises are covered by security at all times to protect public safety.

Process

The emergency rules are necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, and general welfare. The rule becomes effective upon filing with the Code Reviser's Office and will expire October 23, 2014, 120 days after filing.

The emergency rules will become part of the permanent rulemaking the board opened on June 11, 2014, which also includes revisions to marijuana rules in chapter 314-55 WAC which will include these rules as well as rules to implement 2014 legislation.