



Bill Title: Mead – Alcoholic Beverage

Bill Number: HB 1176

Effective Date: July 23, 2017

Amends: RCW 66.24.215 and RCW 66.28.360

Summary:

Mead is defined as a wine or malt beverage where honey represents the largest percentage of fermentable sugars.

- After January 1, 2018, the agricultural commodity assessment that applies to the production of wine may not be levied on the production of mead.
- Liquor licensees with privileges to sell beer or cider to a purchaser in a container supplied by the licensee or a sanitary container brought to the premises by the purchaser and filled at the tap at the time of sale, for off-premises consumption, may also sell mead to a purchaser in such a container. Licenses or endorsements with this privilege include the following:
 - Hotel license;
 - Spirits, beer, and wine restaurant license (endorsement);
 - Beer and wine restaurant license (combined with off-premises endorsement);
 - Beer and wine tavern license (combined with off-premises endorsement);
 - Beer and/or wine specialty shop license (endorsement); and
 - Grocery store license (endorsement).
- Any mead sold in such a container must have an alcohol content equal to or less than 14 percent alcohol by volume.

Contact Information

For specific questions, please contact Customer Service at (360) 664-1600 or lcb.wa.gov.