

#### CR 103 Memorandum

# Regarding Seasonal Hours Requirements for Beer and Wine Restaurant Licensees

Date: September 10, 2025

Presented by: Jeff Kildahl, Policy and Rules Coordinator

#### Background

In December 2024, the Washington State Liquor & Cannabis Board (Board) accepted a rulemaking petition to consider allowing seasonal adjustments to the minimum hours and days of operation for beer and wine restaurants.

Restaurants in Washington that hold beer or wine licenses, or both, maintain their licenses according to regulations in <u>WAC 314-02-045</u>. As written, this rule section required license holders to be open for business to the public at least five hours a day, three days a week throughout the year.

## **Rule Necessity**

Amendments are needed to make amendments to WAC 314-02-045 to reduce the number of days that beer and wine restaurant licensees must be open to the public each week to maintain their licenses.

#### **Description of Rule Changes**

These permanent amendments make changes to WAC 314-02-045 to do the following:

- Update WAC 314-02-045(2)(b) to reduce the days per week from three days to two days .
- Update the annual license fees for these restaurants in WAC 314-02-045(1)(a) and (1)(b) from \$200 to \$300 per license type consistent with Second Substitute Senate Bill 5786 (Chapter 343, Laws of 2025).

## Differences between proposed rules (CR 102) and final rules (CR 103):

There were no changes to the proposed rules.