



## Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board

**Bill Description:** Complimentary liquor by short-term rental operators.

**Bill Number:** ESHB 1731

**Sponsor:** Rep. Kevin Waters

**Effective Date:** 7/23/23

**Amends:** Amends 66.20.010 and 66.24.200 RCW

### Background

A short-term rental is a lodging place that is not a hotel, motel, or bed and breakfast and can be rented for fewer than 30 consecutive nights. An operator of a short-term rental is a person who is paid for owning and renting out the short-term rental (whether a room, part of a house, or the entire house).

In addition to on-premise and retail licensed businesses (places that serve and/or sell alcohol), there are a limited number of businesses that may provide alcohol to guests for free. [RCW 66.12.240](#) allows wedding boutiques and art galleries to offer and provide wine or beer by the glass to guests without charge. In addition, there are several permits that enable businesses or facilities that are not licensed to serve or sell alcohol for a particular event. Examples include banquet permits for private parties, for a non-profit group to auction wine at a private event, or for “bed and breakfast” operators to offer wine or beer to guests.

### Summary

ESHB 1731 adds a new permit type to enable short-term rental operators to provide a complimentary bottle of wine to guests. The permit is \$75 per year. Operators must only provide one bottle, regardless of the number of guests, and they must verify the age of each guest who will consume the wine. The operator must also inform the guests prior to providing the wine, and the guests must have a way to decline the bottle if they choose. The rental operator may purchase wine from a distributor or from a retailer.

###