



**Washington State
Liquor Control Board**

February 16, 2011

To: Sharon Foster, Board Chairman
Ruthann Kurose, Board Member
Chris Marr, Board Member

From: Karen McCall, Senior Policy/Legislative Analyst

Subject: Rescind LCB BIP-04-2010 Beer and Wine Tasting in Grocery Stores

The purpose of this interim policy was to provide guidance to implement SSB 6329 allowing grocery stores to conduct beer and wine tastings with the appropriate endorsement. Rules to implement this policy were adopted on December 15, 2010.

Move to rescind BIP-04-2010.

Approve

Not Approve

Sharon Foster
Sharon Foster, Board Chairman

Approve

Not Approve

Not present
Ruthann Kurose, Board Member

Approve

Not Approve

[Signature]
Chris Marr, Board Member



Washington State
Liquor Control Board

Liquor Control Board Interim Policy #BIP-04-2010

Subject: Beer and Wine Tasting in Grocery Stores
Effective Date: June 10, 2010
Ending Date: Upon adoption of rules to implement this policy.

Approved:

Sharon Foster, Chairman

Ruthann Kurose, Board Member

Linda Bremer, Board Member

Purpose:

SSB 6329 created a beer and wine tasting endorsement for holders of a grocery store liquor license allowing the licensee to conduct beer and wine tastings on the grocery store premises. The bill outlines the criteria under which a grocery store licensee may be authorized to conduct tastings. Rules are needed to clarify some of the conditions and requirements of the grocery store premises.

Policy Statement:

Until superseded by rule, in order to be issued a beer and wine tasting endorsement, the licensee must meet the following criteria:

- Have retail sales of grocery products for off-premises consumption, not to include soda pop, candy, beer or wine, that are more than fifty percent of the licensee's gross sales, or the licensee is a membership organization that requires members to be at least eighteen years of age;
- Operate a fully enclosed retail area encompassing at least nine thousand square feet. The board may issue the endorsement to a licensee with a retail area less than nine thousand square feet if there is no licensee in the community (i.e. neighborhood) that meets the nine thousand square feet requirement under the following conditions:
 - There must be at least two employees on duty any time the licensee is conducting beer and wine tasting events. One employee must be dedicated to the beer and wine tasting events when they are conducted.

- The licensee has not had more than one public safety administrative violation within the last two years. The two year window is counted from two years prior to the date of the application for the beer and wine tasting endorsement. (See WAC 314-29-020 for a list of public safety violations.)

In addition to the conditions in SSB 6329, a beer and wine tasting must be conducted under the following conditions:

- Signs advertising beer and wine tastings may not be placed in the windows or outside of the premises that can be viewed from the public right of way.
- Beer and wine tastings are to be conducted in a controlled area where licensees are able to observe and control customers participating in the tasting event.
- Employees serving beer and wine during tasting events must hold a class 12 server permit.

Licensees are also required to provide a sketch of the area where beer and wine tastings will be conducted. The sketch is to be included with the application for the beer and wine tasting endorsement.

Licensees are required to send a list of scheduled beer and wine tastings to their regional enforcement office at the beginning of each month. The date and time for each beer and wine tasting must be included.