



RULE-MAKING ORDER PERMANENT RULE ONLY

CR-103P (December 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.360)

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: May 30, 2018

TIME: 2:33 PM

WSR 18-12-046

Agency: Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board

Effective date of rule:

Permanent Rules

- 31 days after filing.
- Other (specify) _____ (If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)

Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?

- Yes No If Yes, explain:

Purpose: This new WAC section in chapter 314-55 WAC details the process and criteria that the WSLCB will use to carry out retail license forfeitures as required under RCW 69.50.325. This rulemaking is part of a larger rulemaking effort to implement changes to rules needed due to changes made by the 2017 Legislature, which are being handled under a separate CR-102 filing. The requirements in this new WAC section are summarized as follows:

- A retail licensee must be open and operational within 12 months of license issuance or November 1, 2018, whichever is longer.
- Fully operational means the business must be open a minimum of 5 hours per day between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight, 3 days per week, post business hours outside the premises, and report monthly sales and pay applicable taxes for at least 12 consecutive weeks.

Exceptions to license forfeiture are included for businesses that are unable to open due city, town, or county actions, including ordinances, zoning, permitting, or bans/moratoria, or for other reasons outside the licensee's control on a case by case basis determined by the Board. If the condition providing an exemption to forfeiture is removed, a retail licensee has 12 months from the date of its removal to become fully open and operational. Other provisions relating to documentation and hearing rights are also included.

Citation of rules affected by this order:

New: WAC 314-55-055
 Repealed:
 Amended:
 Suspended:

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 69.50.325, 69.50.342, and 69.50.345)

Other authority:

PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 18-08-093 on April 4, 2018 (date).

Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version: No changes were made from the proposed rules as filed with the supplemental CR-102 to the rules as adopted.

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:

- Name:
- Address:
- Phone:
- Fax:
- TTY:
- Email:
- Web site:
- Other:

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.
No descriptive text.**

**Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.
A section may be counted in more than one category.**

The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|----------|---------|-----|----------|-----|
| Federal statute: | New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
| Federal rules or standards: | New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
| Recently enacted state statutes: | New | <u>1</u> | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |

The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:

| | | | | | |
|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|
| New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|

The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:

| | | | | | |
|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|
| New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|

The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:

| | | | | | |
|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|
| New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|

The number of sections adopted using:

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|
| Negotiated rule making: | New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
| Pilot rule making: | New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
| Other alternative rule making: | New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |

Date Adopted: May 30, 2018

Name: Jane Rushford

Title: Chair

Signature:



NEW SECTION

WAC 314-55-055 Marijuana retailer license forfeiture. (1)(a) A marijuana retailer's license is subject to forfeiture if the retailer is not fully operational and open to the public after twelve months of issuance of the license or November 1, 2018, whichever is later. No marijuana retailer's license is subject to forfeiture within the first nine months of issuance.

(b) Fully operational means the business meets the following criteria for at least twelve consecutive weeks within a twelve-month period after issuance of the license before or after the effective date of this section:

(i) Is open to the public for a minimum of five hours a day between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight, three days a week;

(ii) Posts business hours outside of the premise in the public view; and

(iii) Reports monthly sales from the sale of marijuana products and pays applicable taxes.

(2)(a) A marijuana retailer's license will not be subject to forfeiture if the licensee has been incapable of opening a fully operational retail marijuana business due to actions by the city, town, or county with jurisdiction over the licensed business to include:

(i) The adoption of a ban or moratorium that prohibits the opening of a retail marijuana business; or

(ii) The adoption of an ordinance or regulation related to zoning, business licensing, land use, or other regulatory measure that has the effect of preventing a licensee from receiving an occupancy permit from the jurisdiction or which otherwise prevents a licensed marijuana retailer from becoming operational.

(b) The board has the sole discretion to grant exceptions to the license forfeiture process if a marijuana retailer licensee has had circumstances occur that are out of their control such as a natural disaster.

(c) Adequate documentation will be required to verify any of the exceptions to license forfeiture in this section. It is the licensee's responsibility to inform the WSLCB if conditions change, such as an adjustment to zoning requirements, changes to a ban or moratorium, or other circumstances that would allow the licensee to operate. If the underlying condition exempting a marijuana retail license from forfeiture under subsection (2)(a) or (b) of this section is removed, then the twelve-month time frame to become fully operational and open to the public requirement under subsection (1) of this section will begin from the time the condition exempting the retail license from forfeiture is removed.

(3) A retailer that receives notice of license forfeiture under this section from the WSLCB may request an administrative hearing under chapter 34.05 RCW. A request for a hearing must be made in writing and received by the WSLCB no later than twenty days after service of the notice. Requests submitted in paper form may be delivered to the WSLCB in person during normal business hours at 3000 Pacific Avenue S.E., Olympia, WA 98501, or mailed to the WSLCB. Mailed appeal requests must be addressed to: WSLCB, ATTN: Adjudicative Proceedings Coordinator, P.O. Box 43076, Olympia, WA 98504-3076 or, for certified mail, WSLCB, ATTN: Adjudicative Proceedings Coordinator, 3000 Pacific Avenue S.E., Olympia, WA 98501.