



Legislative Council Staff

Research Note

Version: Final

Date: 10/6/2016

Bill Number

House Bill 16-1151

Sponsors

Representative Pabon
Senator Holbert

Short Title

Alcohol Beverage Expand
Penalty Mitigation

Research Analyst

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Status

This research note reflects the final version of the bill, which became effective on August 10, 2016.

Summary

Under current law, when a licensee's employee sells alcohol to a minor during a law enforcement compliance check, state and local licensing authorities must consider a completion of responsible alcohol beverage vendor training as a mitigating factor. Under this bill, responsible vendor training must be considered as a mitigating factor for other violations of the state's liquor laws, including sales to minors, sales to visibly intoxicated patrons, and other violations approved by future rulemaking in the Department of Revenue.

Background

State law requires the director of the Liquor Enforcement Division (LED) in the Department of Revenue to set standards for a responsible alcohol beverage vendor training program by rule. Under current rule, the program must cover the following: alcohol's effect on the body, liquor liability, sales to visibly intoxicated persons and minors, acceptable forms of identification, and highlight pertinent state laws and regulations. The LED requires licensees to use an approved responsible vendor trainer and maintains a list of approved trainers on its website.

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House Action

House Business Affairs and Labor Committee (February 11, 2016). At the hearing, representatives from the Tavern League of Colorado, Little Pub Company, and the Colorado Restaurant Association testified in support of the bill. One private individual testified on the bill from a neutral position and a representative from the LED responded to questions from the committee. The committee referred the bill, unamended, to the House Committee of the Whole.

House second reading (February 16, 2016). The House passed the bill, unamended, on second reading.

House third reading (February 18, 2016). The House passed the bill, unamended, on third reading.

Senate Action

Senate Business, Labor, & Technology Committee (March 7, 2016). At the hearing, representatives from the Tavern League, Little Pub Company, Colorado Restaurant Association, and Colorado Bar Owners Association testified in support of the bill. A representative from the LED responded to questions from the committee. The committee referred the bill, unamended, to the Senate Committee of the Whole.

Senate second reading (March 10, 2016). The Senate adopted amendment No. 1, which made a technical correction, and passed the bill on second reading.

Senate third reading (March 11, 2016). The Senate passed the bill, unamended, on third reading.