



COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Colorado Wine Industry Development Board

February 26, 2021

The Colorado Wine Industry Development Board (CWIDB), a governor-appointed board made up of representatives of all segments and affiliates of the Colorado wine and grape industry which is housed under the Colorado Department of Agriculture, endorses HB21-1044, to allow non-contiguous licensed premises for manufacturers of vinous liquors put forward by the Colorado Association for Viticulture and Enology (CAVE).

The proposed statutory change will allow wineries licensed pursuant to CRS 44-3-402 and 403 to license non-adjacent premises within a 10 mile radius for manufacturing purposes. Currently, the Colorado Liquor Code requires that the licensed premises for all licensees be contiguous, unless they are used exclusively for storage under a remote wholesale or branch house permit (Reg. 47-412).

This change would benefit wineries seeking to expand their manufacturing capability when industrial real estate immediately adjacent to their existing licensed premises is not available. In that instance, wineries would not have to move their entire operation to a larger space, which would disrupt operations, nor would they have to apply for a second, independent license. Both of those options could be very costly, and would disrupt customer traffic to the familiar, existing location. While the benefit might be most immediately apparent for wineries in urban areas, HB21-1044 would make it easier for wineries in any location to expand into a new location for additional manufacturing activities. This is a benefit currently extended to wineries by the Tax and Trade Bureau of the U.S. Department of the Treasury and available to wineries licensed in other states.

The CWIDB feels that this legislation would expand the opportunity for growth of our small, family-owned craft wineries in Colorado and encourages the Colorado Legislature to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

Bret Neal, CWIDB Chair

Doug Caskey, executive director

