

FINAL BILL REPORT

EHB 2358

C 507 L 09
Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Increasing liquor license fees limited to fees for beer and/or wine restaurants; taverns; snack bars; combined beer and wine retailers; grocery stores; beer and/or wine specialty shops; passenger trains, vessels, and airplanes; spirits, beer, and wine restaurants; spirits, beer, and wine private clubs; beer and wine private clubs; and public houses.

Sponsors: Representative Conway.

House Committee on Ways & Means
Senate Committee on Ways & Means

Background:

The Liquor Control Board (Board) issues a number of types of retail liquor licenses. For some licenses, there are also endorsements available that allow additional activities. Licensees pay an annual fee to the Board.

The distribution of license fee revenue depends on the type of license. Revenue from spirits, beer, and wine restaurant and private club fees is distributed to the state toxicology program for death investigations, and to the University of Washington, Washington State University, and the Department of Social and Health Services for alcoholism and drug abuse program purposes. A portion of the revenue from grocery store, snack bar, and tavern fees is dedicated to alcoholism and drug abuse program purposes and the remainder goes into the Liquor Revolving Fund (revolving fund). The revolving fund is used by the Board for administering the liquor provisions. Excess funds from the revolving fund are distributed according to a formula to border areas, the State General Fund, and cities and counties. The entirety of other retail license fees goes into the revolving fund.

Summary:

Specific retail liquor license and license endorsement fees are raised by 10.5 percent for the 2009-11 biennium as follows:

License	Current Fee	New Fee
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This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Grocery License	\$150	\$166
<i>International Exporter Endorsement</i>	\$500	\$553
Public House License	\$1,000	\$1,105
Beer and/or Wine Specialty Shop License	\$100	\$111
Snack Bar License	\$125	\$138
Interstate Common Carrier's License	\$750	\$829
<i>Duplicate License - Additional Locations</i>	\$5	\$6
Private Club - Beer and/or Wine License	\$180	\$199
<i>Sale of Unopened Wine for Off-Premises Consumption Endorsement</i>	\$120	\$133
Private Club - Spirits, Beer, and Wine License	\$720	\$796
<i>Non-Club Event Endorsement</i>	\$900	\$995
<i>Sale of Unopened Wine for Off-Premises Consumption Endorsement</i>	\$120	\$133
Restaurant Beer and/or Wine License		
Beer only	\$200	\$221
Wine only	\$200	\$221
Beer and Wine	\$400	\$442
Sale of Beer and/or Wine for Off-Premises Consumption	\$120	\$133
<i>Caterer's Endorsement</i>	\$350	\$387
<i>Caterer's Storage at Other Locations Endorsement</i>	\$20	\$22
Restaurant Spirits, Beer, and Wine (public or private) License		
Less than 50% dedicated dining area	\$2,000	\$2,210
50% or more dedicated dining area	\$1,600	\$1,768
Service bar only	\$1,000	\$1,105
<i>Caterer's Endorsement</i>	\$350	\$387
<i>Caterer's Storage at Other Locations Endorsement</i>	\$20	\$22
<i>Sale of Unopened Wine for Off-Premises Consumption Endorsement</i>	\$120	\$133
<i>Kegs-to-go Endorsement</i>	\$120	\$133
<i>Private Club - Non-Club Event Endorsement</i>	\$900	\$995
<i>Duplicate License - Civic/Convention Center Additional Location</i>	\$10	\$11
Tavern License		
Beer only	\$200	\$221
Wine only	\$200	\$221
Beer and wine	\$400	\$442
Sale of Beer and/or Wine for Off-Premises Consumption	\$120	\$133

The 2009-11 fee increase revenue is not subject to the distribution otherwise specified for license fees and may be used only for the administration and enforcement of the affected licenses.

Votes on Final Passage:

House 50 47
Senate 29 20

Effective: July 26, 2009