

# STATE OF COLORADO

## Colorado General Assembly

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### MEMORANDUM

TO: Robert Schraeder and Joel Allen Cathey

FROM: Legislative Council Staff and Office of Legislative Legal Services

DATE: March 31, 2022

SUBJECT: Proposed initiative measure: 2021-2022 #97, concerning Liquor Licenses

Section 1-40-105 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes, requires the directors of the Colorado Legislative Council and the Office of Legislative Legal Services to "review and comment" on initiative petitions for proposed laws and amendments to the Colorado constitution. We hereby submit our comments to you regarding the appended proposed initiative.

The purpose of this statutory requirement of the directors of Legislative Council and the Office of Legislative Legal Services is to provide comments intended to aid proponents in determining the language of their proposal and to avail the public of knowledge of the contents of the proposal. Our first objective is to be sure we understand your intent and your objective in proposing the amendment. We hope that the statements and questions contained in this memorandum will provide a basis for discussion and understanding of the proposal.

This initiative was submitted with a series of initiatives including proposed initiatives 2021-2022 #96 and #98 to 102. The comments and questions raised in this memorandum will not include comments and questions that were addressed in the memoranda for proposed initiatives 2021-2022 #96 and #98 to 102, except as necessary to fully understand the issues raised by the proposed initiative. Comments and questions addressed in those other memoranda may also be relevant, and those questions and comments are hereby incorporated by reference in this memorandum.

## **Purposes**

The major purposes of the proposed amendment to the Colorado Revised Statutes appear to be to create parity in the number of store licenses that retail liquor stores and liquor-licensed drugstores may obtain by:

1. Increasing the number of additional licenses that retail liquor stores may obtain to seven and the total number of licenses that retail liquor stores may obtain to eight on or after January 1, 2022, and before January 1, 2027, and increasing the number of additional licenses that retail liquor stores may obtain to eleven and the total number of licenses that retail liquor stores may obtain to twelve on or after January 1, 2027;
2. Reducing the number of additional store licenses that liquor-licensed drugstores may obtain to eleven and the total number of licenses that liquor-licensed drugstores may obtain to twelve on or after January 1, 2027; and
3. Eliminating the ability under current law of a liquor-licensed drugstore to obtain up to nineteen additional licenses and twenty total licenses between January 1, 2032, and January 1, 2037, and to obtain an unlimited number of additional and total licenses on or after January 1, 2037.

## **Substantive Comments and Questions**

The substance of the proposed initiative raises the following comments and questions:

1. Article V, section 1 (5.5) of the Colorado constitution requires all proposed initiatives to have a single subject. What is the single subject of the proposed initiative?

There are no new substantive comments and questions.

## **Technical Comments**

There are no new technical comments.