



Legislative Council Staff

Research Note

Version: Final

Date: 5/25/2016

Bill Number

House Bill 16-1042

Sponsors

Representative Arndt
Senator Sonnenberg

Short Title

*Liquor License Exemption for
Higher Education Brewing
Program*

Research Analyst

Lisa Gezelter (x3264)

Status

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

Summary

This bill exempts state institutions of higher education that are engaged in the manufacture and tasting of beer for research or teaching from liquor license requirements. The beer cannot be sold and may only be tasted by qualified students, employees, or expert tasters who are all at least 21 years of age.

Background

Three of Colorado's public institutions of higher education offer brewing-related degree or certificate programs. Colorado State University offers a program in Fermentation Science and Technology, Metropolitan State University of Denver offers a program in Brewing Operations, and the University of Northern Colorado offers a program in Brewing Laboratory Science. Currently, these institutions do not obtain liquor licenses for their programs; the bill modifies state law to conform with current practice.

House Action

House Education Committee (January 25, 2016). At the hearing, representatives of the institutions of higher education that offer brewing-related programs testified in support of the bill. The committee adopted amendment L.001, which added requirements about the disposal of

This research note was prepared by Legislative Council Staff, the nonpartisan research staff for the Colorado General Assembly. The research note is provided for informational purposes only and should not be relied upon as an official record of action by the General Assembly. Legislative Council Staff are not attorneys, and the research note is not a legal opinion. If you have legal questions about the bill, including questions about the meaning of the bill language or amendments, please contact the drafter.

unused beer after a tasting event and made several technical changes to the bill. The committee passed the bill, as amended, and referred it to the House Committee of the Whole.

House second reading (February 1, 2016). The House adopted the House Education Committee report and passed the bill on second reading with no amendments.

House third reading (February 2, 2016). The House passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

House consideration of Senate amendments (March 3, 2016). The House concurred with Senate amendments and repassed the bill.

Senate Action

Senate Education Committee (February 25, 2016). At the hearing, representatives of the Colorado Brewers Guild, the Associated Students of Colorado State University, and the state's higher education brewing programs testified in support of the bill. The committee adopted amendment L.002, which limited tastings to products produced by the universities themselves and passed the bill with a recommendation that it be placed on the Senate's consent calendar.

Senate second reading (March 1, 2016). The Senate adopted the Senate Education Committee report and passed the bill on second reading with no amendments.

Senate third reading (March 2, 2016). The Senate passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.