Initiative 2021-2022 #96: Concerning Liquor Licenses

#96 - Original Text

Received Legislative Council Staff 3/22/2022, 4:54 PM

Version 1

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. Declaration of Purpose.

The People of the State of Colorado find and declare that it is in the interest of Colorado to create a more level playing field for the different business types that sell alcohol for offpremises consumption by allowing an equal number of licenses for drugstores, grocery stores and liquor stores. Creating parity and an orderly expansion for all businesses will foster competition, create jobs, increase selection and consumer choice, and lower costs for Coloradans.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 44-3-409, amend (4)(b)(III) as follows:

44-3-409. Retail liquor store license - rules.

(4)(b)(III) For a retail liquor store licensed on or before January 1, 2016, and whose license holder is a Colorado resident, additional retail liquor store licenses as follows, but only if the premises for which a license is sought satisfies the distance requirements specified in subsection (1)(a)(II) of this section:

(A) On or after January 1, 2017, and before January 1, 2022, one additional retail liquor store license, for a maximum of up to two total retail liquor store licenses;

(B) On or after January 1, 2022, and before January 1, 2027, up to two SEVEN additional retail liquor store licenses, for a maximum of three EIGHT total retail liquor store licenses; and

(C) On or after January 1, 2027, AND BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2032, up to three TWELVE additional retail liquor store licenses, for a maximum of four THIRTEEN total retail liquor store licenses;

(D) ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2032, AND BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2037, UP TO NINETEEN ADDITIONAL RETAIL LIQUOR STORE LICENSES, FOR A MAXIMUM OF TWENTY TOTAL RETAIL LIQUOR STORE LICENSES;

(E) ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2037, AN UNLIMITED NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL RETAIL LIQUOR STORE LICENSES; OR

SECTION 3. Effective date. This measure shall go into effect upon the proclamation of the governor of the state of Colorado.