

Initiative 2021-2022 #97: Concerning Liquor Licenses

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Version 2

*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 off-premises 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, up to ~~three~~ ELEVEN additional retail liquor store licenses, for a maximum of ~~four~~ TWELVE total retail liquor store licenses; or

**SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 44-3-410, **amend** (4)(b)(IV) and (4)(b)(V) as follows:

**44-3-410. Liquor-licensed drugstore license – multiple licenses permitted – requirements – rules.**

(4)(b)(IV) For a liquor-licensed drugstore licensed on or before January 1, 2016, or a liquor-licensed drugstore licensee that was licensed as a liquor-licensed drugstore on February 21, 2016, that converted its license to a retail liquor store license after February 21, 2016, and that applied on or before May 1, 2017, to convert its retail liquor store license back to a liquor-licensed drugstore license, additional liquor-licensed drugstore licenses as follows, but only if obtained in accordance with subsection (1)(b) of this section:

(A) On or after January 1, 2017, and before January 1, 2022, four additional liquor-licensed drugstore licenses, for a maximum of five total liquor-licensed drugstore licenses;

(B) On or after January 1, 2022, and before January 1, 2027, up to seven additional liquor-licensed drugstore licenses, for a maximum of eight total liquor-licensed drugstore licenses; AND

(C) On or after January 1, 2027, ~~and before January 1, 2032~~, up to ~~twelve~~ ELEVEN additional liquor-licensed drugstore licenses, for a maximum of ~~thirteen~~ TWELVE total liquor-licensed drugstore licenses.

~~(D) On or after January 1, 2032, and before January 1, 2037, up to nineteen additional liquor licensed drugstore licenses, for a maximum of twenty total liquor licensed drugstore licenses; and~~

~~———(E) On or after January 1, 2037, an unlimited number of additional liquor licensed drugstore licenses.~~

(V) For a liquor-licensed drugstore that submitted an application for a new liquor-licensed drugstore license before October 1, 2016, additional liquor-licensed drugstore licenses as follows, but only if obtained in accordance with subsection (1)(b) of this section:

(A) On or after January 1, 2019, and before January 1, 2022, four additional liquor-licensed drugstore licenses, for a maximum of five total liquor-licensed drugstore licenses;

(B) On or after January 1, 2022, and before January 1, 2027, up to seven additional liquor-licensed drugstore licenses, for a maximum of eight total liquor-licensed drugstore licenses; AND

(C) On or after January 1, 2027, ~~and before January 1, 2032~~, up to ~~twelve~~-ELEVEN additional liquor-licensed drugstore licenses, for a maximum of ~~thirteen~~-TWELVE total liquor-licensed drugstore licenses.

~~(D) On or after January 1, 2032, and before January 1, 2037, up to nineteen additional liquor licensed drugstore licenses, for a maximum of twenty total liquor licensed drugstore licenses; and~~

~~———(E) On or after January 1, 2037, an unlimited number of additional liquor licensed drugstore licenses.~~

**SECTION 4. Effective date.** This measure shall go into effect upon the proclamation of the governor of the state of Colorado.