



Bill Title: Allowing Beer/Wine Sampling at Farmers Markets
Bill Number: SB 5674
Effective Date: July 28, 2013
Amends: Creates a new section in Chapter 66.24 RCW and amends RCW 66.24.170 and RCW 66.24.244

Background:

- A qualifying farmers market must have at least 5 vendors who are agricultural vendors selling their own products.
- The gross annual sales of farmers must be greater than the combined gross annual sales of processors or resellers; and the combined gross annual sales of farmers, processors and resellers is greater than the total combined gross annual sales of vendors who are not farmers, processors or resellers.
- No vendor can be a franchisee and the sale of imported or secondhand items is prohibited.

Summary:

New Section in Chapter 66.24 RCW

- A qualifying farmers market can apply to the Washington State Liquor Control Board (WSLCB) for an endorsement to allow sampling of wine, beer or both.
- Wineries or microbreweries must have an endorsement from the WSLCB to sell their products at a farmers market in order to offer samples. If a farmers market's combined gross annual sales of farmer vendors does not exceed the annual sales of other vendors, the farmers market may still be considered a qualifying farmers market for purposes of sampling if the total combined gross annual sales of vendors at the farmers market is \$1 million or more.
- Up to a total of three wineries or microbreweries may offer samples at a farmers market per day. Samples must be two ounces or less and each winery or microbrewery may provide a maximum of two ounces of wine or beer to a customer per day.
- Individuals serving samples must have a class 12 or 13 server permit.
- Food must be available for sampling customers.
- The WSLCB may establish other requirements to prevent underage drinking.
- The WSLCB may suspend a licensee's farmers market endorsement for up to two years for a public safety violation.

How to Apply:

Complete the Application for Added Endorsement (LIQ 756-50) to allow beer and wine sampling at the farmers market. The application can be found on the WSLCB website at www.liq.wa.gov.

When the WSLCB Licensing Division receives the application:

- A Customer Service specialist will be assigned to the application.
- The Customer Service specialist will send the applicant a request for documents needed to process the application (the applicant has 15 days to return documents).
- The applicant will also be directed to contact their local enforcement officer and complete a final inspection of the premises.
- A notice will be sent to the local authority for comment (20-day period).
- A public posting notice will be sent to the applicant to be posted at the retail premises (must be posted for 14days).
- When all documents are received and the final inspection is complete, the applicant will receive an approval letter from the WSLCB Licensing Division by e-mail.

Contact Information:

For specific questions, please contact Customer Service at 360-664-1600 or www.liq.wa.gov.