

2022 Legislative Update

Hello all! Well the 2022 Legislative session is in the rearview mirror and we wanted to provide a recap of this year's bills.

I will first recap the House Bills:

Original House Bill No. HB0015, now Enrolled Act No.26. This bill corrected an OOPS! in the 2021 Legislative Session in HB0013 which deleted a lot of archaic law that was no longer needed. Unfortunately a cut was made that allowed political subdivisions (cities/towns & counties) from hold a limited retail (club) license at a golf course and being able to lease the food & beverage to a third party. This bill fixed the oops and it is back in statute and this bill became effective upon signing on March 9, 2022.

Original House Bill No. HB0055, now Enrolled Act No. 38. This bill exempts "commercial service airports" from the population formula in W.S. 12-4-201. So if you are at the maximum of retail liquor licenses and your airport would like a license they can apply and be granted one under 12-4-201 as long as they are a commercial service airport. This bill further allows the airport to hold a retail liquor license and contract the food & beverage operation to a third party. This bill becomes effective on July 1, 2022.

Original House Bill No. HB0143, the House did not consider for introduction. This was the Wyoming Medical cannabis bill that would have been housed and regulated by the Wyoming Department of Revenue Liquor Division.

Senate Files:

Original Senate File No. SF0012. Did not consider for Committee of Whole (COW). In simplest terms this bill died during the process. This bill was very similar to HB0055 but instead of retail liquor licenses at airports it allowed for resort liquor licenses by making commercial service airports as a qualifier under W.S. 12-4-401. It would have further allowed for package sales as a resort license.

The Joint Revenue Committee is considering which topics to consider during the interim. One is to move the Wyoming Gaming Commission under the Department of Revenue. The other topic is to dissolve the State Liquor Department. Management Council will decide on all interim topics, so keep an eye on the Legislature's website at wyoleg.gov.

If you have questions concerning these bills please don't hesitate to contact me Tom Montoya at 307-777-6448 or Thomas.Montoyal@wyo.gov or Jason Allen at 307-777-6453 or Jason.Allen@wyo.gov.