
**Agriculture & Natural Resources
Committee**

HB 1171

Brief Description: Changing Washington beer commission provisions.

Sponsors: Representatives Sullivan and Newhouse.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Eliminates the definition of "affected producer."
- Redefines "producer" to include all licensed persons or entities that produce beer in Washington – not just Washington licensed persons or entities that annually produce less than 100,000 barrels of beer per location.
- Allows the Washington Beer Commission to continue to receive gifts, grants, and endowments from public and private sources by removing the termination date.
- Removes references to expired provisions.

Hearing Date: 2/5/09

Staff: Jaclyn Ford (786-7339)

Background:

In 2006, legislation was enacted to establish the Washington Beer Commission (Commission). Creation of the Commission was contingent upon approval of the affected producers who are Washington-licensed brewers producing less than 100,000 barrels annually. A vote of the affected licensed craft breweries was held in the fall of 2006 in favor of creating the Commission.

The Commission will research and market Washington-produced beer, with oversight by the Washington State Department of Agriculture. To fund its activities, the Commission is

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authorized to assess producers a fee of 10 cents per barrel produced and to sell beer at beer festivals.

Summary of Bill:

A producer is a person or other entity licensed by the state to produce beer within Washington.

The Commission may indefinitely receive gifts, grants, and endowments from public and private sources.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.