



IOWA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES COMMISSION MEETING - APRIL 26, 2017

Meeting. The Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Commission met on April 26, 2017, in Ankeny. The Commission took the following actions:

Regulatory Update. The Commission received an update on legislation passed during the 2017 General Assembly.

- Pursuant to [Senate File 516](#), passed by the General Assembly on April 21, 2017, and awaiting the Governor's signature, the Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division (IABD) is directed to conduct a study of enforcement issues related to alcoholic beverage control, including consideration of how best to balance appropriate regulation of the manufacturing, distribution, and sale of alcoholic liquor, wine, and beer with emerging trends in the industry. In conducting the study, the IABD will also consider relevant issues relating to the three-tier system as it impacts the ability of manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers to meet marketplace conditions and business opportunities. With input from stakeholders, industry members, and law enforcement, the Division will submit a final report to the General Assembly by July 1, 2018.
- The General Assembly passed [House File 607](#) on April 17, 2017, and the Bill is currently awaiting final approval from the Governor's Office. House File 607 makes several technical changes relating to matters under the purview of the IABD. The legislation updates definitions and reporting requirements, updates regulations relating to manufacturing of homemade beer, eliminates the "AA" license category and streamlines beer permit procedures, and allows native microdistilleries to sell and serve their products by the glass. House File 607 encompasses the recommendations of the Working Group on Alcohol Regulation Policy, commissioned by Governor Terry Branstad, that met throughout the summer of 2016.

Distribution Study Update. The Commission was also briefed on the current status of the IABD's cooperation with the Department of Administrative Services in forming and finalizing a request for proposal (RFP) for establishing a public/private partnership in the distribution of alcohol across the State of Iowa. The RFP is scheduled to be released to the public on May 8, 2017. Evaluation of proposals will begin on August 19, 2017, and potential final agreements will be made by March 15, 2018. Final implementation of a potential public/private partnership is estimated to be completed by January 1, 2019.

Financial Update. The Commission also received an update on the current financial status of Iowa's alcohol industry. According to calculations provided by the IABD, FY 2017 liquor sales for the month of March have increased 7.0% when compared to the same month in FY 2016. Similarly, total order numbers for the month of March 2017 have increased 18.3% when compared to March 2016. Total revenue has increased 6.5% when comparing data from March 2017 to March 2016.

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be held on June 22, 2017, at 1:00 p.m. at the IABD's headquarters in Ankeny.

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