

CONFIDENTIAL
LEGISLATIVE BILL REVIEW FORM: 2014

Bill Number: H 548 Name of Bill: An Act Relating to the Regulation of Alcohol-infused Food Products

Agency/Dept: Public Safety Author of Bill Review: LT Matt Nally

Date of Bill Review: Jan 10, 2014 Status of Bill: (check one):

XX Upon Introduction As passed by 1st body As passed by both bodies

Recommended Position:

 Support Oppose XXXX Remain Neutral Support with modifications identified in # 8 below

Analysis of Bill

1. Summary of bill and issue it addresses. In my phone conversation with the bill's author; Representative Marcotte he advised the intention is to have food that contains alcohol be controlled and regulated to prevent juveniles from purchasing it.
2. Is there a need for this bill? In speaking with DLC Agent Waldo he advised that this alcohol infused issue has been ongoing issue for some time. Agent Waldo advised that there seems to be several issues with this topic and would be more than willing to speak with the author of this bill or any persons who would want to talk about it. Agent Waldo said that if an alcohol infused product was ingested it would be near impossible for someone to become intoxicated.
3. What are likely to be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for this Department? If attention gets brought to these products as containing alcohol it may attract juveniles to obtain these products. If this is regulated law enforcement agencies will be required to spend time investigating cases which involve these products. This will place a burden on law enforcement and court personnel, storing the product as evidence, processing the suspect and court appearances.
4. What might be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for other departments in state government, and what is likely to be their perspective on it? Again this may cause problems for DLC with more products to regulate, the courts which are already overburdened. I don't see any law enforcement departments in favor of creating more work for them. Culinary schools that use alcohol infused products would have to change their access and possession of said products with their students as well.
5. What might be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for others, and what is likely to be their perspective on it? I spoke with Price Chopper Manager Mike Dennis who is not in favor of this bill. He advised it would create longer lines, more time training employee, a change their computer systems. Also store displays and security for those products. I spoke via email with Jim Harrison from the Vermont Grocers' Association. Harrison feels he does not know what products may be issues however would be willing to discuss further.

Please return this bill review as a Microsoft Word or PDF document to laura.gray@state.vt.us

6. Other Stakeholders:

6.1 Who else is likely to support the proposal and why? Smaller store owners who would feel that they may be held liable for the products getting into the wrong hands and may be involved in a civil litigation.

6.2 Who else is likely to oppose the proposal and why? The product manufactures who would have to change their labeling, shipping and delivering protocols. Culinary Art schools and cooking establishments.

7. Rationale for recommendation: I am not familiar with this type of product causing anyone to become intoxicated or have an effect on any law enforcement agency.

8. Specific modifications that would be needed to recommend support of this bill: Unknown

Secretary/Commissioner has reviewed this document



Date: 2/11/14