

Washington State Liquor Control Board

Issue Paper

Rule Making on Mandatory Alcohol Server Training

Date: May 27, 2009

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Description of the Issue

The purpose of this Issue Paper is to request approval from the Board to file the first stage of rule making (CR 101) to review rules regarding MAST, WAC 314-17.

Why is rule making necessary?

As part of the Liquor Control Board's on-going rules review process, rules regarding MAST are being reviewed for relevance, clarity, and accuracy. In addition, rules will be created to implement an online MAST certification program.

At the April 1, 2009 Board meeting, information was provided on online or Web-based MAST programs. As today's learning and training styles evolve, accommodating diverse learning styles and options through online programs is unavoidable. The general trend in academia is to offer more courses through online and Web-based programs. Online or Web-based MAST offers advantages over classroom style learning: It accommodates different learning styles, and provides convenience and economical advantages to trainees in rural areas where private MAST trainers are scarce.

Thirteen states have enacted mandatory alcohol server training laws. While more states are preparing to mandate alcohol server training programs, there is also a new trend in offering web-based programs.

According to the study conducted by the Oregon Research Institutes regarding online alcohol server training, the majority of participants reported that they liked the online program "much better" (32.3%) or "better" (26.9%) than the live training. About 90% rated most topic areas as 'useful' or "very useful".

Process

The rule making process begins by announcing LCB's intent to change existing rules and propose new rules by filing a CR 101 form. This allows staff and stakeholders to begin discussing necessary changes and new rules. No proposed language is offered at this stage. The public may comment during the designated comment period. Notice will be sent to all who have indicated that they want to receive notice of rule changes. The notice will identify the public comment period and where comments can be sent. Board staff will work closely with stakeholders in the development of MAST rules. Based on public input

received, staff will draft proposed changes for presentation to the Board at the next phase of the rule making process.

A tentative timeline for the rule making process is outlined below:

May 27, 2009	Board is asked to approve filing the pre-proposal statement of inquiry (CR 101 filing by noon)
June 17, 2009	Code Reviser publishes notice, LCB sends notice to rules distribution list
July 20, 2009	End of first written comment period
September 2, 2009	Board is asked to approve filing proposed rule making (CR 102)
September 16, 2009	Code Reviser publishes notice, LCB sends notice to rules distribution list
October 7, 2009	Public hearing held
October 14 , 2009	End of written comment period
October 21, 2009	Board is asked to adopt rules (CR 103)
October 21, 2009	Agency sends notice to those who commented both at the public hearing and in writing.
October 21, 2009	Agency files adopted rules with the Code Reviser (CR 103)
November 22, 2009	Rules are effective (31 days after filing)