

Changes to State Liquor Code Contained in House Bill 242

Some of the changes will go into effect sixty days after the Governor's signature and some will become effective immediately. (They are marked below.) The bill has passed both the House and Senate and is currently on Governor Corbett's desk. The most significant changes are:

- **Sunday sales:** If you currently have a Sunday license, you may not sell alcohol until 11:00 a.m. This would change. You would be allowed to sell alcohol, on Sunday, beginning at 9:00 a.m. if you also offer full meals. A full meal is what a reasonable person would consider a meal for breakfast, lunch or dinner, and it does not include snacks, such as chips or pretzels. (Immediate)
- **Worthless checks:** If the LCB receives notification that a licensee has issued a worthless check, the licensee will receive written notice and then have 10 days to honor the check. That is not currently the case. (60 days)
- **Noise violations:** This has been a significant problem for many licensees. Current law says that if any noise is heard outside the premises, and often an LCB agent would open the door and then the noise would be heard outside, it is a violation. The new law says that **noise will have to be heard beyond the property line.** (Immediate)
- **More noise violations:** Noise violations will NOT count against a licensee's renewal unless they have received six such violations in a 24 month period. (Immediate)
- **RAMP Training:** All managers will be required to undergo the Responsible Alcohol Management Training. Currently you only have to have the training if you have been convicted of a major violation. (60 days)
- **Records:** The requirement of keeping all records on premise for up to seven years has been significantly reduced. Now, only the most recent six months of records must be kept on premise, and even they may be removed under certain circumstances. (60 days)
- **Beer Distributors:** They may now be open on Sundays from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm. (60 days).