

# Safe Communities & Consumer Protection



## Alcohol & Marijuana

***Alcohol and marijuana are legal in Washington state – but only for adults. Both substances are intoxicating and subject to abuse, and they need to be dealt with responsibly. The Legislature continues to regulate both carefully, restricting access by minors while encouraging sensible business opportunities.***

### Keeping liquor out of the hands of teens

***Preventing theft of liquor from licensed retailers/ [HB 2155](#)*** – With the vast expansion of retail outlets selling alcohol under liquor privatization, law enforcement agencies have reported a huge spike in thefts from grocery stores. There have been many stories of cars full of teens caught with bottles of liquor. In order to curtail the harm and danger teens face in illegally acquiring alcohol, HB 2155 creates a system that will allow law enforcement agencies to identify which stores are seeing an unacceptable amount of theft and to work with them and the Liquor Control Board to develop plans to ensure thefts are reduced. *(Delivered to governor)*

### Helping an emerging Washington industry to grow

***Supporting craft distillers / [SB 6226](#)/[HB 2364](#)*** – House and Senate bills were identical. This bill increases the annual spirits production limit, removes limits on the sale of spirits by a craft distiller and authorizes any licensed distillery to sell spirits of its own production for consumption off the premises. Although the industry is seeing remarkable growth, it is still difficult for distilleries to survive. This bill will be a great help, especially for the small distillers. Washington currently has 83 distillers, which is more than any other state in the nation. Last year distillers paid \$16 million in state taxes. *(Delivered to governor)*



### More growlers, less impact on the environment

***Allowing sales of growlers of wine and cider / [HB 1742](#) & [SB 6442](#)*** – Growlers – typically, reusable glass jugs of a half-gallon or more filled to order from a tap – are a popular and environmentally friendly way to dispense beer. These bills permit selected licensees to sell hard cider or domestic wines in growlers. Both bills support our local cider and wine industries. *(Delivered to governor)*

### Cracking down on marijuana sales to minors

***Imposing penalties for providing, using fake IDs to buy marijuana / [HB 2706](#)***

- With the opening of legal recreational marijuana stores, we need to ensure that there are real penalties for enabling purchases by minors -- and disincentives for those youth who attempt to purchase at stores. This bill makes it a misdemeanor to provide a false ID to those underage, and it creates civil infractions for underage would-be customers who attempt to buy from stores with a fake ID. *(Died in Senate)*