

Prescott Resolution #1

Urges the Legislature to modify state liquor laws to enhance the ability of municipalities to address community related problems associated with liquor establishments, such as requiring the Department of Liquor Licenses and Control and the State Liquor Board give greater consideration to city recommendations on proposed liquor licenses.

Submitted by:

City of Prescott

A. Purpose and Effect of Resolution

This resolution proposes to modify state liquor laws to improve the ability of municipalities to address public safety and quality of life concerns associated with problem liquor establishments, primarily through the State Liquor Department and Board. Some examples are as follows: 1) Allow cities to request a hearing of the State Liquor Board at the time of renewal for existing licenses when sufficient reason exists to request the Board to not renew the license; and/or 2) Create a 12-month provisional permit for licenses when a municipality recommends denial of a license but the Board grants approval; and/or 3) Modify the definition of licensed premises to include parking lots of bars and liquor stores; and/or 4) Hold license applicants accountable to commitments made during the application process. 5) Modify the membership of the State Liquor Board to include a municipal law enforcement representative. 6) Give careful consideration to a municipality's concerns regarding the owner/manager, particularly when factual research demonstrates poor past performance.

B. Relevance to Municipal Policy

Poorly managed liquor establishments pose considerable problems for law enforcement and surrounding neighborhoods, such as crime, noise violations and parking issues. Reforms to liquor laws increasing the consideration of impacts to neighborhoods would greatly enhance the ability of municipalities to protect public safety and quality of life in these neighborhoods. Legislation addressing problem liquor establishments and changes to Arizona liquor laws have been an ongoing challenge for cities and towns. Cities and towns should have the ability to plan their communities as they believe best, including the location and operation of liquor establishments. The proposed provisions allow cities to have a greater role in the liquor licensing process for liquor establishments to ensure that are addressed.

C. Importance of Resolution to Your City or Town

Legislation addressing problem liquor establishments and changes to Arizona liquor laws have been an ongoing challenge for cities and towns. Cities and towns should have the ability to plan their communities as they believe best, including the location and operation of liquor establishments. The proposed provisions allow cities to have a greater role in the liquor licensing process for liquor establishments to ensure that are addressed.

D. Fiscal Impact to Cities and Towns

These provisions should result in fewer police calls for liquor establishment-related incidents, reducing the need for law enforcement resources and increased costs to cities and towns.

E. Fiscal Impact to the State

Anticipated costs to the State would be minimal, primarily one time administrative implementation costs by the State Liquor Department and Board.

F. Contact Information

Increase Municipal Input on
Liquor Licenses

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