

**FINAL
FISCAL NOTE**

Drafting Number: LLS 14-0957	Date: June 18, 2014
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Pabon; McNulty Sen. Tochtrop; Renfroe	Bill Status: Postponed Indefinitely Fiscal Analyst: Clare Pramuk (303-866-2677)

SHORT TITLE: NONRESIDENT DISTRIBUTION OF HARD CIDER IN COLORADO

Summary of Legislation

This bill allows a nonresident manufacturer of malt liquor or a malt liquor importer that is licensed by June 1, 2014 to:

- import and sell its own hard cider to a licensed wholesaler;
- maintain stocks of hard cider and operate warehouses in which it has a financial interest by procuring a wholesaler's liquor license; and
- solicit orders from retail licensees and fill orders through licensed wholesalers.

Background

Hard cider is an alcoholic beverage containing at least 0.5 percent and less than 7 percent alcohol by volume made by the fermentation of apple or pear juice. It is generally treated as a vinous liquor under Colorado law. Under current law, hard cider manufactured out-of-state must be imported by a licensed wine and spirits importer.

Assessment

Because it does not affect the revenue, expenditures, or workload of any state agency, the bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact. The bill effectively allows a nonresident beer manufacturer to directly import its hard cider rather than requiring the involvement of a wine and spirits importer. It is not expected to increase the amount of hard cider sales, to increase the number of liquor licenses issued, or change the number of state or local liquor enforcement actions.

Effective Date

The bill was postponed indefinitely by the House Business, Labor, Economic, and Workforce Development Committee on April 15, 2014.

State and Local Government Contacts

Revenue