

Study: SJ30 Interim Study Poll Rank: 6 of 6

Short Title: Interim study of viticulture and wine distribution and licensing regulation

Staff Recommendation: Economic Affairs Interim Committee

Preliminary Analysis

Issue(s) as listed in legislation:

Study issues of production and regulation of wine, winemaking, grape-growing, and use of byproducts, including:

- Wine production (harvesting, crushing, fermentation, clarification, packaging, labeling, storage)
- Wine marketing (demographics, wine tourism, consumer behavior)
- Regulatory requirements
- Additional licensing opportunities for wine production, manufacturing, sales

Preliminary study approach:

- Presentation and discussion of winemaking with Montana and regional wine producers, possibly University of Montana
- Presentation and discussion of applicable state and federal regulations with appropriate state and federal agencies, including Department of Revenue (Alcoholic Beverage Control Division)
- Presentation and discussion of marketing factors with appropriate wine producers and business development groups, including Departments of Agriculture and Commerce.
- Possible field trip(s) to existing wine producers (Flathead Valley, Bitterroot Valley)

Deliverables; end products:

Report with recommendations, legislation by September 15, 2024

Role for LFD or LAD staff? Yes No

Role for Executive agency? Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Revenue

Additional costs, over meetings? Yes No

Estimated LSD staff time: 720-1,440 hours

Interim FTE Equivalents

1 Interim FTE = 16.5 months = 2880 hrs.

.05 FTE = 144 hrs = 18

.10 FTE = 288 hrs = 36 days

.25 FTE = 720 hrs = 90 days

.50 FTE = 1440 hrs = 180 days

.75 FTE = 2160 hrs = 270 days

1 FTE = 2880 hrs = 360 days