

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5294

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As Reported By Senate Committee On:  
Commerce & Labor, February 17, 1997

**Title:** An act relating to refunds for liquor licenses.

**Brief Description:** Providing for a prorated refund of a liquor license if the license holder discontinues operation at a licensed establishment.

**Sponsors:** Senators McCaslin and Haugen.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Commerce & Labor: 2/4/97, 2/17/97 [DPS].

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE & LABOR

**Majority Report:** That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5294 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Schow, Chair; Horn, Vice Chair; Anderson, Franklin, Fraser, Heavey and Newhouse.

**Staff:** Traci Ratzliff (786-7452)

**Background:** Liquor licenses are renewed on an annual basis. Currently, if a liquor licensee ceases operation as a liquor establishment a portion of the way through the year, the Liquor Control Board is not authorized to provide a refund for the remaining portion of the annual license fee.

**Summary of Substitute Bill:** The Liquor Control Board is authorized to provide a refund of the remaining portion of an annual license fee to any license holder who voluntarily ceases operation as a liquor establishment. The Liquor Control Board is authorized to deduct any outstanding administrative penalties or fines or administrative costs associated with the issuance of the license from the licensee's refund.

**Substitute Bill Compared to Original Bill:** Language is added to clarify that only those licensees who voluntarily cease operation as a liquor establishment are eligible for a refund of the remaining portion of a license fee.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on January 23, 1997.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** None.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Testified:** No one.