

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 6199

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As Reported By Senate Committee On:  
Labor, Commerce, Research & Development, January 24, 2006

**Title:** An act relating to sports entertainment facility liquor licenses.

**Brief Description:** Regulating sports entertainment facility liquor license fees.

**Sponsors:** Senators Rockefeller and Kohl-Welles.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Labor, Commerce, Research & Development: 1/17/06, 1/24/06 [DP].

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

**Majority Report:** Do pass.

Signed by Senators Kohl-Welles, Chair; Franklin, Vice Chair; Parlette, Ranking Minority Member; Brown, Honeyford and Keiser.

**Staff:** Jennifer Strus (786-7316)

**Background:** Currently, sports entertainment facilities must have an appropriate liquor license to sell beer, wine or spirits at retail to be consumed on the premises. The appropriate license is called a sports/entertainment facility license. The cost of the license is \$2500 per year.

**Summary of Bill:** An entity which provides food and beverage service for a small public or private sports entertainment facility in which baseball is played and which seats fewer than 5000 persons and is operational for not more than 3 months a year shall pay \$350 per year for a sports/entertainment facility license.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

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

**Testimony For:** There are a number of semi-professional baseball teams around the state that are comprised of college baseball players who want the opportunity to play semi-pro baseball. These teams put on baseball games just like the minor leagues do. It costs about \$70,000 to \$80,000 a season to field the team and filling the stands is critical to keeping these teams viable. Being able to obtain the proper liquor license at a lower fee to sell beer in the stands for the short time these teams operate would be helpful to their continued viability.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Who Testified:** PRO: Senator Phil Rockefeller, Prime Sponsor; Rick Smith, Part-owner and General Manager of the Kitsap Blue Jackets; Charles Cates, Concessionaire/Director, Kitsap Blue Jackets.

CON: No one.