

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## SB 5310

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**As Passed House:**  
March 6, 2014

**Title:** An act relating to senior center licenses.

**Brief Description:** Creating a senior center license.

**Sponsors:** Senators Nelson, Kohl-Welles, Chase, Harper, Keiser and Conway.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:**

Government Accountability & Oversight: 2/20/14 [DP].

**Floor Activity:**

Passed House: 3/6/14, 84-12.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Creates a liquor license for nonprofit senior centers to sell spirits by the glass and beer and wine at retail for on-premises consumption.

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY & OVERSIGHT

**Majority Report:** Do pass. Signed by 9 members: Representatives Hurst, Chair; Wylie, Vice Chair; Condotta, Ranking Minority Member; Holy, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Blake, Kirby, Moscoso, Shea and Vick.

**Staff:** David Rubenstein (786-7153).

**Background:**

An entity wishing to serve or sell alcoholic beverages must obtain a liquor license from the Liquor Control Board (LCB). Washington liquor statutes authorize various types of licenses, such as for restaurants, beer and wine retailers, sports entertainment facilities, and hotels. No license specifically applies to senior centers; instead, many senior centers use the nonprofit event license or the nonprofit arts organizations license.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

Nonprofit organizations may obtain a special occasion license to sell spirits, beer, and wine by the serving for on-premises consumption at a specific event only. This special occasion license, costing \$60 per day, applies to only one event at a specific date and place. Additionally, nonprofit arts organizations such as theaters may obtain a general license to sell alcohol for on-premises consumption during productions or performances open to the general public. The arts organization entity must meet a variety of criteria to qualify for the license, including restrictions on officer compensation and use of proceeds from liquor sales. The nonprofit arts organization license costs \$250.

**Summary of Bill:**

A senior center license is created, costing \$720 annually. The license is available only to nonprofit organizations whose primary service is providing recreational and social activities for seniors on the licensed premises (senior center). The license permits a senior center to sell spirits by the glass and beer and wine at retail for on-premises consumption. Alcohol servers under the license must obtain a mandatory alcohol server training permit.

In order to qualify for the license, the senior center applicant must:

- be a nonprofit organized under Washington law;
- be open at times set by the LCB; and
- offer limited food service as required by the LCB.

The LCB is given rulemaking authority over the senior center license, and the license is incorporated into statutes generally applicable to liquor licenses.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:**

(In support) None.

(Opposed) None.

**Persons Testifying:** None.

**Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying:** None.