
Environment Committee

HB 1525

Brief Description: Concerning beverage containers.

Sponsors: Representatives Caldier, Buys, Stokesbary, Wilson, Van Werven and Riccelli.

Brief Summary of Bill
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Exempts beer and other malt beverages from the definition of "beverage" for the purposes of the prohibition on containers designed to be opened by a detachable metal ring or tab.

Hearing Date: 1/19/16

Staff: Jason Callahan (786-7117).

Background:

Beverage containers are prohibited from sale in Washington if they are designed to be opened by a detachable metal ring or tab. This prohibition applies to cans of beer, malt beverages, mineral water, soda water, or any other drinks intended for human consumption other than soy or milk-based products that require heat and pressure in the canning process.

The prohibition of metal tab cans is enforced by the Department of Ecology and is enforceable through a civil penalty of up to \$500 per violation per day.

Summary of Bill:

Beer and other malt beverages are exempted from the definition of "beverage" for the purposes of the prohibition on containers designed to be opened by a detachable metal ring or tab. As a result, beer and malt beverages may be sold in cans with a removable tab opening device.

Appropriation: None.

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.

Fiscal Note: Requested on 1/14/16.

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