



News Release

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OLCC holds public rules hearing on proposed Minor Posting rule amendments

PORTLAND, ORE – The Oregon Liquor Control Commission is holding a public hearing Friday, Feb. 22 at 10:00 a.m. in room 103A in the commission's Milwaukie office for members of the public to provide testimony regarding the proposed amendments to its Minor Posting rule (OAR 845-006-0340).

The Minor Posting rule amendments would provide flexibility for some venues to allow minors to be present at events where alcohol is being served if an approved minor control plan is in place. A minor control plan is a written document detailing the steps that will be taken by the licensee to prevent minors from obtaining alcohol, ensure that drinking is not the predominant activity and minimize minors' exposure to a drinking environment.

If adopted, the rule amendments would provide additional enforcement options for OLCC inspectors to ensure compliance of these control plans as well as public safety.

According to Rudy Williams, OLCC Deputy Director, the proposed rule amendments would not automatically allow any licensee to open their facility to minors. "Each request would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and would rely heavily on the proposed control plan, the type of entertainment offered and the kind of atmosphere the location offers," said Williams. "There are several facilities currently utilizing approved control plans either daily or for special events. This rule change would provide consistency and allow OLCC to make sure all of the venues are adhering to their control plans."

"I think this rule would be a great step for the liquor commission," said Brian McMenamin, owner of McMenamins. "For years, we've provided a fun and safe atmosphere for family and friends to get together, take in a movie or concert, while having the option for adults to indulge in one of our handcrafted ales. This rule would provide opportunities for other non-traditional venues like ours to have those options available."

"We manage several venues in the Portland area with a wide variety of audiences among them," said Dan Lenzen, partner, Concept Entertainment. "We would be interested in applying for the number six posting for Barracuda, where we recently had our control plan approved by OLCC to hold some activities that are appropriate for minors. On the other hand, we recognize that many bars and clubs, like our Dixie Tavern, offer an adult-only environment with mature conversation and alcoholic beverages without the bother of anyone under 21. I'm happy with Dixie's current posting and wouldn't be interested in pursuing this alternative at this time."

Public comment on the Minor Posting rule amendments can be sent by email at Jennifer.huntsman@state.or.us. Comments can also be mailed to: Jennifer Huntsman, Rules Coordinator, 9079 SE McLoughlin Blvd., Portland, OR 97222 or faxed to (503) 872-5110. Written comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. Friday, March 7.

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