

GAC Meeting (2024-02-09 11:32 GMT-5) - Transcript

Attendees

+1 802-***-***48, +1 802-***-***95, Avery Schwenk, Chris Kesler, Emma Arian, Hannah Goldman, Jack Droppa, jessica oski, Kara Pawlusiak, Matt Wilson, Terry Thompson

Transcript

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Matt Wilson: but Yeah, Jessica, if you want to give us a little rundown on what we learned yesterday, that'd be great.

jessica oski: Here and yeah, thanks both of you and Emma for coming it's always really helpful to be there in person whenever you can be and to meet with the committee as often as we can get as I had told you all before this committee doesn't have a lot of depth of knowledge and alcohol issues because they just received these issues last year. So it was helpful for them to hear from the worst understanding the Brewers are the BBA is and kind of things that we do. And that Emma did a good job and introducing themselves. Generally the other folks that were on the agenda and present were.

jessica oski: Some are representatives from the wholesale beverage distributors. Make Dunbar from the craft beer seller in Waterbury mini bootenheim in the distilled Spirits Council. a retail shop owner in the Mad River Valley and Schuyler from the dll and the most of the things that we supported or the few things that we supported in our testimony, which were

jessica oski: the one that probably will move forward without any concerns is increasing the special event permits. That manufacturers are allowed to Acquire from 10 to 20 the dll had no position on that and the other Witnesses supported that so that one is probably going to go forward without any problem at all. The one that

jessica oski: elicited some interesting response from the dll was the proposal to have a second class license in a contiguous space.

jessica oski: they heard some compelling testimony from the craft beer seller about how hard it is to have these two. Spaces and they heard testimony from the About how difficult it is for some, smaller breweries and others to have this non-contained contiguous space What do dll said and Emma could add to this because we both commented when we left that they raise some good points the committee seems like they want to try and address them. But with the dll said was that if you take this on face value Essentially this could really increase what they call Outlet density across the state.

jessica oski: Any bar basically could have a cooler and when you're done drinking at the bar, you grab a six pack and leave. That's not what we envisioned right? It's not what you all envisioned. It's not what is currently happening, but that's their concern which is arguably a real concern and there's data when Outlet density increases. There's a correlation maybe not a causation but a correlation to increase in public

safety issues. and so the committee, dude on this a bit and then Emma and I talked about it a bit and Dll promise to come back and think about whether there could be way to narrow it and one way that could be narrowed would be to allow manufacturers.

jessica oski: That have a tap room to have a Second class license but not all Second class licenses are made all first class licenses just regular bars to have a second class license, that would be special for us, but that wouldn't solve the problem for the craft beer seller. So. maybe there's another creative solution maybe all can think of something but I think the dlls concern is that we don't want to allow every first and second class license over to also have a first and third class license older to also have the second class license. That could have public safety issues. So that was really the main.

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jessica oski: Kind of sticky thing that came up during the hearing. The dll doesn't have any position on the on The other issues that we were interested in. and the one that we did supporter we had no objection to Changing the bookstore to all retail outlets and they said okay, but let's make sure that those are limited in numbers. So a retail outlet couldn't just be serving beer all the time since I don't know. Do you have any other insights on that day?

Emma Arian: No, I think you set it all pretty concise. It also like to say that everyone shouted out Jessica for putting together Our Testimony in a really clear way multiple people said that so that felt really good representing the VBA too in an organized way. So, thank you Jessica.

Matt Wilson: It made my job super easy Jessica. I didn't really have a chance to thank you yesterday excited to bail, but I really do appreciate that work that you did. It was awesome. I just want to add a quick anecdote about the license thing too. I don't know if you guys have done any work down in the Greater Philadelphia area selling beer, but they basically have that set up where because of the way that they're DD stores are set up or whatever, but every bar pretty much has a cooler to go beer behind it.

Matt Wilson: And it does feel like the Wild West it doesn't feel right. You sort of are like that that looks like trouble I mean granted Philadelphia. So you add that factor in no offense anyways from Philly, but I can see why that would be concern and I do, as much as we want to help Partners like CBC out it would be great if we could make that exception for manufacturers because I think for us it really does it is a game changer and I try to make that clear to the committee, but it's hard to argue against what they're saying with that out density. Peace. Yeah, Terry.

Terry Thompson: I hit on something really quick. so I talked to Emma a little bit yesterday and I think there's a way potentially word So it's a win for both if we take the manufacturer part or we can have an area. But then limit the time Of a CBC which they are. Yeah, whatever. He's relocating to let's say They can only serve to go until they close at 8pm. So then that closes the window for all of the bars and takes place on Church Street or anything if they want to do it before age. Sure. but to limit the Chance of severe oversearing. I don't know if that's something that could be putting a lot a time a timestamp.

Matt Wilson: interesting We'll make note of it.

Terry Thompson: Because I know that it's hard to say that craft beer cellar This is not anymore and they yesterday announced that they want to Chapter 7 bankruptcy and install operations.

Matt Wilson: Is that the whole chain or...

Terry Thompson: It's called. the whole chain went he's in process of rebranding anyways.

Matt Wilson: just the Waterbury location?

Matt Wilson: Too bad end of an era. All right. Jessica, just was there anything else that felt like we needed to kind of discuss as a group to set you up for Success next week. Obviously, this was a big week for us. And what is next week look like down there and do you want to chew through anything?

jessica oski: yeah, so what I can do is I'll connect with Charles the dills legislative person and see if we can I'll raise this is your maybe ending at 8 o'clock limiting it to manufacturers figuring out maybe Skyler and figure out a creative solution for Places the craft beer seller which they have. I think they want to serve.

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jessica oski: They want to have a first class and they're basically a store with the first class. It's not really like a bar with the second class. So maybe Skyler has some idea but I'll sort of set the juices running with dll saying this is something that we're really interested in and want to come up with a creative solution and maybe we can have something out and then our next week that the committee will come back to this. I'll also touch base with representative buy wrong other members of the committee that will know really interested in this and see if that can Inspire them to come up with some sort of a solution. and again, I

jessica oski: We're out to get a solution that works for us which would be manufacturers and they can help to figure out something for Other folks that are having an issue. So the committee will take this up again next week. I'll follow up with numbers. I'll report back. I got them testimony. But if you start the new proposal or someone bring something else to the table, and we need to respond. I'll let you know.

Matt Wilson: I just had an idea and I do think it's a little bit probably more of a long long play type of a solution but we've been kind of. experiencing this licensing shuffle for the last 25 years or so of manufacturers getting a fourth cost license and then going on to get a first class license and if you want to sell to go you got to get the second and I wonder all of those restrictions or parameters were put on a long time ago before craft beer was really what it is today, and I'm wondering if the longer play is just redefining what a fourth class license allows us to do, rather than saying Okay, you get your fourth class and you can serve tasting flights but if you want to do a pint you got to get this if you want to serve to go why wouldn't we just shoot for manufacturers like us just sort of getting

Matt Wilson: All the rights to serve Pines to serve to go all of those things wrapped up in the fourth class license like that just seems like such a simpler solution than trying to make it cater it, to our needs when really our needs are so different than other bars and restaurants.

+1 802-***-**48: That's a fantastic idea Matt. I love it.

Matt Wilson: Thank you.

jessica oski: That is a good idea.

Matt Wilson: I mean obviously that's not going to happen in this country, but

Jack Droppa: Yeah. I think that.

+1 802-***-**48: Hey, I have a quick question. sorry. Go ahead.

Jack Droppa: So I was just a group Matt, redefining. Would be awesome. I mean before this they changed the whole thing on food and whatnot requirements for first class. I was saying that if you have a fourth class license, you should be your manufacturing on the same areas your Tap Room. the Immune from a having to have to have food if you don't want to redefining what the fourth class license. And what we can do with it. Would be awesome.

+1 802-*-**48:** I have a question going back about Jessica and the CBC related discussion. So is the pitch going to be that it's second class license that has a French classified since in-house had time constraints or the

jessica oski: I think we're just going to start tossing around the idea that maybe if you have multiple licenses if you have first and third and second that your second class would end at 8 o'clock as an option to address the Of the downtown bars all having a second class so you can stop drinking it midnight and grab a six-pack on your way out.

Matt Wilson: right second

Matt Wilson: Which obviously that would present limitations to our membership too. if for example we have all three of those licenses here at our spot. I mean that we would have to shut off to go sales as well which I mean, I guess that's a bit of a

Terry Thompson: What I was saying was kind of do a mixture of both so manufacturers license you get it open all the time. Even though most of us are only open till 9pm. Anyways, I think maybe just what foam is open to 11 on the weekend. But a retail store or whatever they want to do it like what Nate's doing and it like eight or nine. That's what I was sitting on kind of do a mixture was.

00:15:00

Matt Wilson: Yeah, maybe back to redefining the allowances at a fourth class license would maybe be that cleaner path again? I don't know what that would entail obviously wouldn't be this session, but it might be smart for us to look at that just it really is outdated in the sense that when they put together the steps that you need to do to get a spot like ours open, right? it just doesn't really make a lot of sense and it's also difficult for I think a lot of new people into our industry to sort of navigate that right wait. I have to get this license too. And then that one just it would be so much easier if it was we're manufacturer. This is our needs this is what you get straightforward.

jessica oski: Probably make sense also to try and do something like that under the Wendy night rain because Wendy is definitely more interested in the economic development aspect of the business whereas the next and definitely the prior commissioner were more interested in the Regulatory and Public Safety aspects of the business. So now would be a good time to try and move something like that.

Meeting ended after 00:18:11 🙌