

ABL WEEKLY

POLICY, INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS NEWS FOR BEVERAGE RETAILERS

Friday, August 30, 2019

Issue 396

MEETINGS & EVENTS

[September 12 - IABR Fall Golf Outing | Indianapolis, IN](#)

[September 15-17 - ILBA Annual Convention & Tradeshow | LaSalle, IL](#)

[October 9 - NYSLA 10th Annual Albany Holiday Trade Show | Albany, NY](#)

[October 10 - IABR Annual Meeting & Board of Directors Meeting | Indianapolis, IN](#)

[October 14-17 - TLW 84th Annual Fall Convention | Green Bay, WI](#)

[October 15 - NYSLA 10th Annual Buffalo Holiday Trade Show | Buffalo, NY](#)

[October 21-23 - ABL Fall Board Meeting & Industry Meetings | Washington, DC](#)

ABL & PUBLIC POLICY NEWS:

[Macron Defuses French Digital Tax Row, Trump Coy on Wine Threat](#)

France and the United States reached a deal to end a standoff over a French tax on big internet companies, though U.S. President Donald Trump declined to say whether his threat of a retaliatory wine tax was off the table as a result.

[WTO Set to Rule on Canadian Wine Sale Rules](#)

Next Year: The World Trade Organization panel currently weighing Australia's challenge of Canada's restrictions on the retail sale of foreign wines said it will issue a decision in the first half of next year, according to a WTO notice published Monday.

['China Is Not Paying for It': Trump Tariff Hike Hits Everyone from Beer Brewers to Book Publishers](#)

The trade war between the U.S. and China started more than a year ago, but past rounds of duties have mostly impacted parts and components that are not obvious to the average consumer. It's this latest round that could impact everything from the craft beer you drink on the weekend to the musical instrument you play or the book your kid reads.

INDUSTRY NEWS:

Alcohol & Tobacco Tax & Trade Bureau (TTB): [TTB Newsletter - Weekly News \(August 30\)](#)

Brewbound: [Aluminum Can Producers Warn of Price Increases, as President Trump Threatens to Increase Tariffs on Chinese Imports](#)

Law360: [Florida Bars Hit with \\$31M Verdict for Drunken Hit-and-Run](#)

NACS: [More States Tax Vaping Products](#)

SevenFiftyDaily: [The Legalities of Using a Third-Party Marketer](#)

CANNABIS NEWS:

Prepare for Cannabis-Infused Beer: As of this week, Two Roots Brewing has one brand in three channels: alcohol, cannabis, and non-alcohol, according to Forbes. But the focus is on the non-alcoholic Two Roots brew infused with cannabis that rolls out at BevMo! liquor stores across California.

Mystery Youth Vaping Disease Reveals Gaping Holes in Regulation: A mysterious outbreak of critical lung disease in scores of teenagers and young adults is forcing federal agencies to grapple with a vast, nearly unregulated market of nicotine- and marijuana based vaping products. At least 193 potential cases, including one death, have been reported to the federal government this summer.

INDUSTRY SPOTLIGHT:



DRAUGHT BEER QUALITY MANUAL

Perfect for professional and home draught systems

Put Your Best Beer Forward

Fourth edition now available

BREWERS PUBLICATIONS.

The [Draught Beer Quality Manual](#) is an indispensable resource for brewers, wholesalers, retailers, and draught system installers. Prepared by the Brewers Association Technical Committee, this fourth edition includes updated best practices, detailed information about line cleaning, draught system components and design, gas dispense and balance, proper pouring, sanitation and growlers is organized with your needs in mind. The goal is simple – to improve draught beer quality and ensure that beer makes it into the consumer’s glass as the brewer intends.

STATE & LOCAL NEWS:

Alaska: Regulation to Limit Events at Breweries, Distilleries: An Alaska regulation agency has proposed changes that would limit activities at city breweries and distilleries. The Juneau Empire reported Tuesday that the Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board has proposed changes to a state statute that

New Jersey: Ignition Interlock Now Required for DUI Offenders: New Jersey became the 34th state in the country to mandate ignition interlock devices for all drunk-driving offenders, that includes those convicted for their first offense. The mandate is part of a new state law which has revised penalties for

would further prohibit onsite activities at alcohol manufacturing businesses.

Georgia: City Officials Hold Sessions on Changes to Alcohol Ordinances: New rules are on the way for liquor and gaming in Savannah, and city officials are hosting drop-in sessions for business owners to get up to speed on ordinance changes taking effect October 1. One change is for stores that sell packaged alcohol. Those business and retail shops will soon need an emergency plan.

Illinois: Bars, Restaurants Can Now Fill Growlers with Beer: Illinois bars and restaurants can now fill more than just pints after Governor JB Pritzker signs a law amending the Liquor Control Act. House Bill 3610 allows any place that sells beer to serve on its premises to sell a growler or crowler.

Indiana: Retailer Cap n' Cork Waging Legal Battle to Gain Access to Neighboring States: Cap n' Cork, the Fort Wayne, Indiana-based retail chain with 15 stores and annual sales of \$28 million, is in the midst of a legal battle to roll back shipping restrictions in its home state. At present, the retailer is pursuing lawsuits in neighboring Michigan and Illinois to win the right to sell in those markets, and is considering challenges in other states as well.

Maryland: County Liquor Department Opening Spirits-Only Store: Montgomery County's Alcohol Beverages Services will open a spirits-only store in Poolesville, designed to retain customers in the area for a pair of retailers selling beer and wine. The store is expected to arrive in the Village Shopping Center at 19710-D Fisher Ave. in late 2019.

Mississippi: Coalition Fighting for Wine in Supermarkets Appoints Chair: The Looking for Wine Mississippi coalition has appointed Elliott Flaggs, vice president at Cornerstone Government Affairs, as its chair. Looking for Wine is a growing coalition of Mississippians who support changing state law to allow wine sales in grocery stores.

drunk driving and expanded the use of ignition interlock devices (IID).

North Carolina: Repeat Fake ID Users Face Loss of Real License: There is a new focus on repeat offenders who use fake identification to buy alcohol and get into nightclubs and bars in the city of Greenville and Pitt County. Repeat offenders will now face losing their real driver's license if caught breaking the law.

Rhode Island: Liquor-License Fracas Heats Up in Newport: The city of Newport, Rhode Island, has capped its number of liquor licenses for the past 40 years, pushing their value on the private market as high as \$400,000 each, Dan McGowan writes. But a proposal from local hotel developers to increase Newport's number of liquor licenses has touched off a controversy, with existing owners arguing that adding liquor licenses will lower the value of current licenses, and that is it unfair for new businesses to purchase a license without spending hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Pennsylvania: State Rep. Looks to Ease Beer, Wine Sale Requirements in Grocery Stores: The Pennsylvania House Liquor Control Committee met Tuesday morning to discuss a Bill being considered that could make it easier for consumers to buy alcohol in grocery and convenience stores. Several groups gave their input on the proposal.

Pennsylvania: Lawmakers Introduce 'Deana's Law' to Increase Penalties for Repeat Drunk Drivers

Pennsylvania is cracking down on repeat DUI drivers in hopes of saving lives. Lawmakers introduced "Deana's Law," named after Deana Eckman, who was killed by a drunk driver who had five previous DUIs. "She would be down the shore with her husband," Roseann DeRosa, Deana's mother, said.

Washington: Five Years In, Washington Considers Overhaul of Pot Regulation: Five years after Washington launched its pioneering legal marijuana market, officials are proposing an overhaul of the industry's rules. Plans call for boosting minority ownership of pot businesses, paving the way for home deliveries of medical cannabis, and letting the smallest growers increase the size of their operations and become more competitive.

BUSINESS & LIFESTYLE NEWS:

Pumpkin Beers Creeping Back into the Market:

The monks of St. Joseph's Abbey follow a Trappist tradition that dates back to the 17th century. They operate their brewery by the strict standards of the International Trappist Association and produce timeless styles of beer that float above the whims of craft's fleeting market.

Millennials Are Shunning Beer Because They Say It Makes Them 'Fat':

Almost a third of millennials say they're cutting back on alcohol, up from the 21% who said they were drinking less alcohol in 2018, according to a survey by Bank of America Merrill Lynch. Beer is being hit the hardest, with 27% of the millennials who say they are cutting back saying that they are drinking less beer.

Anheuser-Busch Declines Option to Buy All of Craft Brew Alliance:

Anheuser-Busch InBev declined an option to buy all of Widmer Brothers Brewing parent Craft Brew Alliance on Friday and shares of Portland-based CBA fell sharply as a result. The decision ends an opportunity for the global brewing giant to gobble up the rest of one of Oregon's last remaining pioneering breweries.

Constellation Brands Losing Millions on its Marijuana Investment:

Beer and wine giant Constellation Brands warned Monday it will lose \$54.3 million in the current quarter from its nearly \$4 billion investment in a Canadian-based weed company. In 2017, Constellation, whose Chicago-based beer division imports Corona and Modelo beers, made an initial investment in Canopy Growth as it sought to capture a portion of the recreational marijuana market, a market expected to grow as states legalized consumption. Constellation raised its stake to 38% in August 2018.

Alcohol Companies Confident Festive Season Will Help Get Rid of Hangover of Elections and Floods:

Dry days, water shortage and floods have drained alcohol companies more than the slowdown in the economy. Reports suggest that sales growth of beer and spirits fell by a third in April-June this year to five percent and two percent compared to the previous corresponding period.

NYC Taco Bell Cantinas Reportedly Using 'Low Alcohol Imposters' for Their Cocktails:

Apparently, thinking outside the bun sometimes means making weak cocktails. Taco Bell Cantinas are popular among fast food fans for combining the chain's popular menu with alcoholic drinks. It turns out, however, that depending on the location, fans may not be getting the drinks they expect.