

ABL WEEKLY

POLICY, INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS NEWS FOR BEVERAGE RETAILERS

Friday October 4, 2019

Issue 401

MEETINGS & EVENTS

[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](#)

[March 29-30 – 2020 ABL Annual Meeting](#)

[April 29 – ILBA Lobby Day | Springfield, IL](#)

[June 1 – ILBA Annual Golf Outing | Springfield, IL](#)

[September 13-15 – ILBA 135th Annual Convention | Effingham, IL](#)

ABL & PUBLIC POLICY NEWS:

[Consumer Confidence Tumbles in](#)

[September Amid Trade Fears](#): Consumer confidence took a dive in September as growing economic concerns about the trade wars and the economy in general appeared to take a toll on consumers. The Conference Board's consumer confidence index fell to 125.1 in September from a downwardly revised 134.2 in August.

[An Interview on the Pros and Cons of Alcohol](#)

[Studies and Warnings](#): There is a movement to get the U.S. Federal Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) to expand its mandated health warning on beverage alcohol to include rotating messages linking alcohol consumption to cancer. The issue was covered in a post a few weeks ago.

[Trump Administration Announces Tariffs on Whiskey, Cheese and Aircrafts From the E.U.:](#)

The Trump administration announced Wednesday that it will impose tariffs on \$7.5 billion in European imports beginning Oct. 18 in a case involving European Union subsidies to the plane maker Airbus.

[Drinks Brands Could Lose Billions If Plain Packaging Extended To Alcohol:](#)

Drinks companies worldwide could lose more than US\$430 billion in brand value if plain packaging laws are extended to alcohol and sugary drinks, according to new research.

[The 10 Least Tax-Friendly States in the U.S.:](#)

This year's tax filing season was more nerve racking than most. It was the first time we had to deal with all the federal tax code changes made by the 2017 tax reform law. U.S. tax rates were lowered, standard deductions were doubled, itemized deductions were limited, and personal exemptions were repealed.

[New York vs. Grubhub](#): Seamless, the food delivery service launched two decades ago in Midtown Manhattan, calls itself "the most New York app in New York." In advertisements, the company cracks jokes about the L Train and takes unsubtle jabs at New Jersey.

INDUSTRY NEWS:

Alcohol & Tobacco Tax & Trade Bureau (TTB): [TTB Newsletter – Weekly News \(October 4\)](#)

American Beverage Licensees: [U.S. Alcohol Trade Groups Call for End to Tariffs on EU Spirits and Wine](#)

Alcohol Law Advisor: [Safe Banking Act Passes House, Extends Cannabis Safe Harbor Protections](#)

Drizly: [Consumer Study Paints Emerging Picture of How GenZ Shops for Alcohol In-Store and Online](#)

Law360: [DoorDash Says 4.9M Accounts Affected In May Data Breach](#)

McCormick Distilling Co.: [McCormick Announces Distributor Realignment](#)

Nation's Restaurant News: [Study Shows Young Workers Prioritize Purpose Over Paycheck](#)

Republic National Distributing Company: [RNDC Announces Key Leadership Appointments](#)

Shanken News Daily: [Market Watch Toasts the Top Spirits and Wine Retailers at Annual Awards Dinner](#)

Sky Ranch Foundation: [Foundation Awards Grant to Orange Duffel Bag Initiative](#)

Wine Institute: [Institute Opposes Retaliatory Tariffs on EU Wine](#)

Wine-Searcher: [The Price of State Control for Wine](#)

Wine & Spirits Daily: [The State of Current Retailer Shipping Cases](#)

AFFILIATE NEWS:

Retail Liquor Association of Oklahoma

[One Year of Strong Beer and Wine Has Brought Surprises, Struggles](#)

It's been one year since shelves and convenience store beer caves sat empty, the last of 3.2% beer running dry in most cities on the eve of strong beer and wine sales. The Oklahoma dry spell came on the eve of State Question 792 going into effect.

Tavern League of Wisconsin

[Saferide Program marks 35 years](#)

Now in its 35th year, the Tavern League of Wisconsin's SafeRide Program continues to be a model for the rest of the nation. The Tavern League's commitment to eliminate drunk driving from Wisconsin's roadways is documented in its recently released SafeRide Survey of more than 60 counties in the state.

CANNABIS NEWS:

[Vape-Related Illnesses Point to THC:](#)

Products containing THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana, are the most prominent link to hundreds of lung illnesses and a dozen deaths tied to vaping and e-cigarettes, according to U.S. News.

[CDC Reports Majority of Patients Sickened in Vape Epidemic Used Marijuana Vaporizer Devices - Many from Illicit Market:](#)

Health officials reported on Friday that the majority of those sickened in the vaping health crisis used cannabis vape products containing THC, and many of those in the first two states to report illnesses - Illinois and Wisconsin - said they

U.S. Cannabis Sales to More Than Quintuple by 2025, New Report Finds:

As you're probably aware, cannabis has rapidly evolved into a big-money industry. According to the duo of Arcview Market Research and BDS Analytics, worldwide sales expanded to \$10.9 billion in 2018, which was more than triple what was recorded globally just four years earlier (\$3.4 billion). And the reality is, this is just the tip of the iceberg.

Cannabis Industry Lobby Says FDA Should Regulate Legal Pot:

In a white paper issued Tuesday, the National Cannabis Industry Association outlined a framework for regulating cannabis once it is legalized federally by using the existing infrastructure of government agencies, most notably the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, instead of creating new bureaucratic bloat.

used counterfeit marijuana products from the illicit market, not licensed MJ companies.

Restaurants Approach CBD with Caution As Popularity Grows Like a Weed:

Cannabidiol, or CBD, is growing in popularity as consumers grow more comfortable with the hemp cannabis extract, according to new research by the NPD Group, and restaurant operators are keeping a close eye on its legal and consumer developments.

ASSOCIATE SPOTLIGHT:



The **Beer Institute** represents the \$328 billion beer industry – an industry that includes 7,000 brewers and more than 2.1 million American jobs. The Beer Institute is a national trade association for the American brewing industry, representing both large and small brewers, as well as importers and industry suppliers.

Our organization represents the beer industry before Congress, state legislatures and public forums across the country. We're committed to developing sound public policy, focusing on community involvement and personal responsibility.

STATE & LOCAL NEWS:

California: State ABC Says Grocery Store 'Monopoly' Game Gave Beer Brand Unfair Advantage:

Albertsons LLC, Safeway Inc., and The Vons Companies, Inc. have agreed to pay at least \$300,000 after an investigation by the state Department of Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) over illegal business practices.

District of Columbia: Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Rejects Challenge to Trump

Hotel: A local regulatory agency in Washington has dismissed a review of Trump

Oklahoma: Big Changes on the Way for State's DUI Laws:

Big changes are on the way for D.U.I. laws in Oklahoma. As of Nov. 1, there will be no more implied consent hearings for those arrested for driving under the influence.

Pennsylvania: Local Legislators Say No to Legal Pot:

Pennsylvania's governor is calling for the legalization of recreational marijuana, but local legislators say now is not the time. On Wednesday, Gov. Tom Wolf and Lt. Gov. John Fetterman held a press conference in

International Hotel's liquor license after a group of purported District of Columbia residents filed a complaint arguing that the hotel's owner, President Donald Trump, is "not of good character."

Indiana: State's Largest County Says it Will No Longer Prosecute for Marijuana Possession:

The most populated county in Indiana, Marion County, on Monday announced it will no longer prosecute simple marijuana possession cases for individuals caught with an ounce or less of the drug.

Maryland: New Law Increases Prison Time for Convicted Drunk Drivers:

Convicted drunk drivers in Maryland could now spend more time in prison. The Repeat Drunk Driving Offenders Act, which goes into effect Tuesday, increases the maximum prison time for repeat drunk drivers and those convicted of vehicular homicide from three to five years.

Maryland: Medical Marijuana Regulators Stall Industry Expansion Amid Complaints of Unfairness:

Maryland's medical marijuana regulators abruptly stalled a planned market expansion on Thursday after one company sued them and an influential group of state lawmakers separately complained of "impropriety."

Minnesota: 'Save the Growler' Petition Tops 11,000 Signatures:

Castle Danger Brewery in Two Harbors was required to stop selling growlers on Tuesday because it exceeded the 20,000 barrel per year cap in September.

New York: Serve Liquor or Use Delivery Apps? Debate Over New State Rule Heats Up:

A proposal that critics say could force New York state restaurants to choose between serving alcohol or using delivery apps is heading to a showdown.

Ohio: Boozy Ice Cream to Go? House OKs Delivery of Alcoholic Treat, a Help for OTR Business:

Buzzed Bull Creamery wants to sell their boozy ice creams outside the walls of their Over-the-Rhine shop. The only thing killing their buzz? Ohio law.

Harrisburg to announce the findings from Fetterman's statewide listening tour.

Pennsylvania: Rep. David Dellosa Wants to Use State Liquor Stores to Sell Recreational Marijuana:

There's a new plan for legalizing and regulating recreational marijuana in Pennsylvania. Rep. David Dellosa, a Democrat from Delaware County, will introduce his bill on Wednesday.

Texas: Operator of Popular San Antonio Dance Hall Lands in Bankruptcy:

The San Antonio operator of the Midnight Rodeo dance hall has two-stepped into bankruptcy court. Cymru Ltd. Co., which operates the popular nightclub at 12260 Nacogdoches Road, filed for bankruptcy reorganization Thursday.

Utah: After Dumping 3.2 Beer for Heavier Brews, Lawmakers Will Look at the Impact of Their Decision:

A special task force is taking a look at the impact of dumping 3.2 beer for heavier brews. "Here, we've kind of made a decision so we're kind of going backwards a little bit to look at it," Rep. Timothy Hawkes, R-Centerville, told FOX 13.

Washington: State's Target Zero Campaign Needs Renewed Emphasis:

When the Snohomish County DUI Victims Memorial Wall was first erected, a grove of trees at Everett's McCollum Park likely seemed a good setting for family and friends to gather and remember those lost to impaired driving.

Washington: State to Ban Flavored Vaping Products Containing Marijuana, Tobacco:

Gov. Jay Inslee ordered state health officials to impose an emergency ban on all flavored vaping products for both e-cigarettes and those containing THC, impacting one segment of the market.

Wisconsin: Judge Rules DUI Laws Apply to Riding Lawnmowers, Sparks Panic Among Midwest Dads:

Did a Wisconsin appeals court judge fully understand the ramifications of their recent ruling extending drunk-driving laws to riding lawnmowers?

BUSINESS & LIFESTYLE NEWS:

Now Rising to the Top of the Beer World:

Foam: There's nothing fast about the Slow Pour Pils from Bierstadt Lagerhaus. The Denver brewery spends 30 hours brewing the straw-colored pilsner, ferments it for weeks and, finally, makes its taproom customers wait at least five minutes for a taste.

Three Cheers for Fall Beers: Fall is in the air, and fall beers are on the tap list. Put away your lighter, summery ales and cozy up around the campfire with something seasonal. The Germans know a thing or two about fall drinking, and craft brewers have a few autumn tricks up their sleeves as well.

Why More Online Retailers Are Opening Brick-And-Mortar Locations: E-commerce set out to change the way we shopped. But increasingly, online stores are opening up physical stores as a way to attract more sales. This new trend is called clicks to bricks.

Why Do Beverage Professionals Hate Vodka, Yet Consumers Love It?: Vodka is at the heart of one of the great disconnects in the alcohol world: It's both the top-selling spirit in the United States, and almost universally reviled by bartenders and their ilk.

Using a 150-Year-Old Law, Miami Lawyer Sues Over a Once Notorious Spice in a Popular Gin:

Bombay Sapphire, one of the world's most recognizable gins, is distilled with something called "grains of paradise," an ancient spice grown in the tropics of West Africa that gives the liquor warm and peppery overtones.

Costco Is Selling an Advent Calendar Filled with 24 Cans of Beer:

News flash: it's not even October, so technically, we haven't even entered the holiday season yet. I know! Exciting. Still, that hasn't stopped holiday foods and advent calendars filled with candy and booze from popping up in stores.

Why Honey Is the Next Frontier in Drinks:

Belinda Kelly is on the front lines of farm-to-bar mixology. Her Happy Camper Cocktail Co. is a mobile cocktail catering business in the Seattle area that features fresh locavore ingredients.

10 States with the Highest Beer Taxes:

There's nothing like cracking open a cold one at the end of a hot summer's day. But the dollars and cents you're drinking away without even realizing it can leave a bitter aftertaste.

A Beginners' Guide to Pairing Beer and Food:

In the food world, pairing meals with wine is almost second nature — a crisp Chardonnay with wild salmon, a deep red Cabernet with a filet mignon.