Liquor and Cannabis Board Second Revised Interim Policy BIP-09-2018

Subject:

WAC 314-55-077 Marijuana processor license

Effective Date:

July 17, 2019

Ending Date:

Upon the effective date rules to implement this policy or Board action

rescinding this policy.

Approved:

Jane Rushford, Board Chair

Ollie Garrett, Board Member

NUT PRESENT

Russ Hauge, Board Member

Background:

The Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board (WSLCB) received complaints surrounding the approval of marijuana infused edible products that appeared to be especially appealing to youth and children. The complaints prompted the WSLCB to re-evaluate the approval process for these products.

The WSLCB received feedback from the industry that the packaging, labeling, and product review process lacked transparency and was hard to understand. The industry also viewed packaging, labeling, product decisions as arbitrary.

Additionally, there was industry concern regarding the scope of rule language requiring that both marijuana-infused solid edibles and liquid products be homogenized to ensure uniform disbursement throughout the product.

Licensees must fully comply with this policy by July 1, 2020.

Purpose:

The purpose of this interim policy is to further clarify the procedures and processes for packaging, labeling, and product decisions for marijuana infused edible products, and removal of the word "throughout" as it relates to homogenization. An interim policy is

necessary to clarify the rules for licensees, protect the public, and to reduce risk of accidental exposure to marijuana infused edibles by youth and children.

Policy Statement:

The following sections of WAC 314-55-077 are amended as follows:

- (8) Marijuana infused edible products in solid or liquid form must:
- (a) Be homogenized to ensure uniform disbursement of cannabinoids;

(9) A marijuana processor is limited in the types of food or drinks they may infuse with marijuana. Prohibited items include, but are not limited to marijuana infused products that require cooking or baking by the consumer. Marijuana infused products must be dull in color and not coated in sugar, sprinkles, or other embellishments. For purposes of this rule, "dull" is defined as a color low in saturation and low in lightness. Marijuana infused edibles that are brightly colored or similar to commercially available products intended for or that are targeted to youth or children are prohibited. Marijuana infused products that are especially appealing to children are prohibited.