Liquor and Cannabis Board Revised Interim Policy BIP-10-2018

Subject: WAC 314-55-105 Packaging and labeling requirements

Effective Date: January 9, 2019

Ending Date: Upon the effective date of rules to implement this policy.

Approved:

Ollie Garrett, Board Member

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.

Licensees will have until January 1, 2020, to submit marijuana infused edible packaging and labeling in compliance with new requirements for approval by the board.

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. An interim policy is necessary to 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 requirements apply to all marijuana infused edible products and their packaging and labeling:

- Only colors and shapes from an approved list on the WSLCB website can be used.
- Packaging and Labeling background color must be white, cream, grey, black, tan or brown. Up to three accent colors from the approved color list provided on the WSLCB website is allowed. A percentage or gradient of an approved color counts as one color.
- Packaging and Labeling font color must be one of the approved colors provided on the WSLCB website. Font color counts as one of the three accent colors.
- A full color photo or photo in a chosen accent color of the product is allowed.
- Packaging with a clear window is permitted.
- Company logos are permitted. Examples of allowable logo displays are available on the WSLCB website.