

HB17-1145 Talking Points

- Colorado is home to a vibrant and growing wine industry with over 140 licensed wineries
- Many of Colorado's successful commercial winemakers began as amateur winemakers
- Colorado is also one of the top destination states in the country for both tourism and business – Denver and the Western Slope are highly desirable locations for national conventions
- Allowing amateur wine makers the ability to hold wine making competitions on a liquor-licensed premises makes Colorado even more attractive to national conventions
- Amateur wine making competitions are a mainstay for many national wine conventions
- Colorado has not been and cannot be considered for the WineMaker Magazine Conference, a national traveling conference, due to the inability for amateur wine making competitions to be held on a liquor licensed premises
- This bill would allow for conventions, like WineMaker Magazine, to come to Colorado and bring revenue to the state
- Currently, amateur beer making/brewing competitions are able to hold competitions on a liquor licensed premises and just as the current statute restricts access to home-brewed beer, this legislation will only allow twenty-one year old participants in and judges of such events to sample the amateur wine in limited quantities and prohibits the sale of amateur wine
- This legislation provides parity for Colorado's blossoming craft wine industry and keeps Colorado at the forefront of agricultural innovation and economic development
- Please support HB-1145