 OLCC seeks input on extending distilled spirits surcharge; revenue goes to state’s general fund

Written comments may be submitted until September 19, 2020 at 5 PM

Public Action: The Commissioners of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission will accept written public comment on a possible extension of the current 50-cent surcharge on distilled spirits. The Commissioners will listen to verbal commentary at the August 20, 2020 Commission Meeting.

Verbal Comment: In order to offer verbal testimony at the August 20, 2020 Commission meeting, please email laura.paul@oregon.gov by August 18, 2020 at 5:00 pm.

Written Public Comment: Per OAR 845-015-0138, the Commission shall consider any written or verbal comments before implementing such a price increase.

Written comments can be submitted beginning Tuesday August 4, 2020 through September 19, 2020 at 5 PM to:

Laura Paul, Executive Assistant
9079 SE McLoughlin Blvd.
Portland, OR 97222
laura.paul@oregon.gov

Commission Action: The Commission will take a vote at either a special commission meeting in late September or at the regularly scheduled October Commission Meeting on October 15, 2020.

Background:
• The current 50-cent per bottle (25 cents per mini bottle) surcharge is scheduled to expire June 30, 2021. The proposed surcharge is a continuation of the surcharge that was initiated in the 2009-2011 biennium and extended through the 2019-2021 biennium.

• If the surcharge is continued, it is expected to generate $41.1 million for the 2021-2023 biennium. Surcharge revenue is distributed to the State General Fund.

The seven citizen commissioners are the policy-making body of the OLCC. They meet monthly for one day to make decisions on liquor and marijuana licenses, rules, contested case hearings and appointments of liquor store agents. Commission meetings are held every month. Agenda items and meeting information can be obtained on-line at http://www.oregon.gov/OLCC/pages/public_meetings.aspx

Did you know that in the last two years, the OLCC distributed more than $465 million to Oregon’s General Fund, Cities, Counties, and Drug and Alcohol Abuse Programs? See the distribution of dollars on OLCC’s Website.