



Requiring spiked drink testing kits and signage

Overview

[Senate Bill 5330](#) would require Taverns, Nightclubs, Hotels, Motels, Private Clubs and a few other liquor licensees to have spiked drink testing kits on hand and available for purchase. There would also be a signage requirement to display the following message in a prominent location: "Don't get roofied! Drink spiking drug test kits available here. Ask a staff member for details." This legislation was brought forward by students in a senator's district and is based on a similar bill passed in California that only applies to nightclubs.

The Washington Hospitality Association takes the safety of our members, member employees, and their guests incredibly seriously. And, while this bill is an attempt at improving public safety, it does not hold the perpetrators accountable. Rather, it may unfairly and unjustly signal to the public that an establishment may have a history of negligence. A sentiment that is untrue.

The Washington Hospitality Association is trying to reduce the requirements to only nightclubs and provide more informative signage requirements with the hospitality industry's input.

Talking points

- The safest place to consume alcohol is in a licensed, regulated establishment, and our industry is the only industry that requires employees to be trained in responsible alcohol service.
- We understand and sympathize with the sentiment behind the bill; however, this version is too far removed from the law that passed in California given our states' differences in liquor licensing laws.
 - We would like to see the bill align with California's law.
- The requirements should only apply to nightclubs, who are comfortable with the requirements in this proposal.

- The signage should be adjusted with the support of the hospitality industry in partnership with the Liquor and Cannabis Board.
- Requiring businesses post signs about sexual assault in a prominent location should only apply to establishments that exclude children.
- Washington State should fully invest in law enforcement and public safety legislation to prevent sexual assault and hold violent criminals responsible for their actions.

This is why we are concerned about the bill and want these changes to be brought forward.

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