House Research

Short Subjects

Patrick J. McCormack June 2006

The Ban on Breathable Alcohol Devices

A new law passed in the 2006 legislative session bans the possession or use of a device designed to allow alcohol to be consumed by inhaling fumes. This law takes effect August 1.

What is an "alcohol without liquid device"?

The law defines an alcohol without liquid device as a device that:

- Mixes an alcoholic beverage with pure or diluted oxygen;
- To produce an alcohol vapor;
- That is intended to be inhaled by an individual.

What is and isn't included?

For purposes of this law, devices, machines, apparatuses, or appliances that meet the above definition are banned. Some devices are not included. An alcohol without liquid device does not include:

• An inhaler, nebulizer, atomizer, or other device that is designed and intended for medical purposes, to dispense medicines.

There are exemptions for research. Hospitals, state institutions, private colleges or universities, or pharmaceutical and biotechnology firms may have these devices for bona fide research purposes.

Is it against the law to own an alcohol without liquid device?

Owning these devices is a crime.

- It is unlawful for any person or business establishment to possess, purchase, sell, offer to sell, or use an alcohol without liquid device.
- Except for legitimate research, it is unlawful for a person or business establishment to use a nebulizer, inhaler, or atomizer for the purpose of inhaling alcoholic beverages.

For more information: Contact Patrick McCormack at 651-296-5048.