

Date of Hearing: April 30, 2025

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

AB 744 (Michelle Rodriguez) – As Introduced February 18, 2025

Policy Committee: Governmental Organization

Vote: 21 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: No

Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill exempts draught beer drawn at a premises operated under a beer manufacturer license from labeling requirements otherwise applicable to an on-sale retail licensee.

FISCAL EFFECT:

Minor and absorbable costs to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

COMMENTS:

- 1) **Purpose.** According to the author, it is unclear whether existing law requiring an on-sale retail licensee selling draught beer to label the tap applies to a brewery tasting room. The author contends that brewery tasting rooms do not mark their taps due to the high level of familiarity brewery workers have with the manufactured products, and intends this bill to clarify that the labeling requirement does not apply to a premises licensed as a beer manufacturer. This bill is supported by the California Beer and Beverage Distributors.
- 2) **Draught Beer Labeling.** Existing law requires an on-sale retail licensee selling draught beer to label the tap with a clear and legible sign indicating the name or brand of the beer's manufacturer. A sign must also be posted in the place of service and consumption of beer if the tap is located in a different room. This bill exempts a brewery tasting room licensed as a beer manufacturer from these labeling requirements.
- 3) **Related Legislation.** AB 1287 (Fong) expands a different draught beer tap signage law to apply to all licensees, not just retail licensees, and exempts a license issued for the retail sale of beer on a temporary basis for special events from that signage law. AB 1287 is pending on the Assembly Consent Calendar.
- 4) **Prior Legislation.** AB 2849 (Rubio), of the 2023-24 Legislative Session, was identical to this bill. AB 2849 was ordered to the Senate Inactive File.

Analysis Prepared by: Irene Ho / APPR. / (916) 319-2081