

September 2023 Legal & Legislative Update

FEDERAL / NATIONAL / INTERNATIONAL

Agritourism Bill Introduced in Congress

[H.R. 5203](#) seeks to establish an Office of Agritourism in the Department of Agriculture, recognizing the benefits of many agriculture-related activities, among them direct sales from breweries, wineries, cideries and distilleries.

THE STATES

California

Before the Governor for action, [Senate Bill 269](#) seeks to authorize the holder of a beer manufacturer's license, a winegrower's license, a craft distilled spirits manufacturer's license, or a brandy manufacturer's license that holds any combination of those licenses for a single premises to have alcoholic beverages that are authorized under those licenses at the same time anywhere within the premises and to maintain a designated area upon that premises where retail sales and consumption authorized under those licenses may occur.

Amended in the Senate, [Assembly Bill 546](#) seeks to revise tied-house restrictions related to paying, crediting, or compensating a retailer or retailers for advertising, display, or distribution service in connection with the advertising and sale of all alcoholic beverages, rather than only distilled spirits; expands a restriction to providing "related things of value" to the things that cannot be furnished, given, lent, or rented to any person any decorations, paintings, or signs, except as specified; adds a prohibition to "providing credit" and "rebates" for the privilege of placing or painting a sign or advertising, or window display, on or in any premises selling alcoholic beverages at retail; clarifies that alcohol licensees may sell customized interior signs to retailers at a price not less than current market value.

Adopted by the Senate, [S.R. 47](#) proclaims October 10, 2023, as Black Brewers Day and encourages Californians to observe this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities to celebrate and acknowledge the contributions of Black brewers in California and the United States.

Passed by both legislative chambers, [Senate Bill 388](#) requires the State Board of Equalization (BOE) to make public, upon request, any information from a beer manufacturer tax return, including the name and address of the taxpayer that is not a natural person. BOE must amend the beer manufacturer return to include a brief description of how the beer industry has historically used such information and a designated line or checkbox where a taxpayer may elect to prohibit disclosure of such information. This bill applies to returns filed on or after January 1, 2024.