LEAGUE OF WISCONSIN MUNICIPALITIES

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January 24, 2025

Department of Revenue
Ann DeGarmo
2135 Rimrock Road
Madison, WI 53708-8933

Submitted via email to DORAdminRules@wisconsin.gov and ann.degarmo@wisconsin.gov

*Re: League of Wisconsin Municipalities Comments on EmR 2419 relating to alcohol beverage regulation and taxation.*

Ms. DeGarmo,

The League of Wisconsin Municipalities (League) appreciates the opportunity to submit written comments on Emergency Rule 2419 relating to alcohol beverage regulation in Wisconsin pursuant to 2023 Wisconsin Act 73.

The League represents 607 cities and villages across the state that are involved daily with alcohol licensing. Local municipalities play a key role in alcohol and operator licensing. While the state sets the general laws governing the sale and distribution of alcohol, local governments have significant authority over the issuance of alcohol and operator's licenses within their boundaries.

The League has one important request that we would like the Department to consider in this administrative rule. With respect to Tax 7.11 addressing operators' permits, the League would request the emergency rule be modified to contemplate municipalities' ability to report [information] to the Division that may affect the Division's decision to issue, renew or revoke an operator's permit. Specifically, municipalities may need to report when they have denied an individual's application for a local operator's license or when an individual who has been issued a state operator's permit is violating state law or local regulations that would warrant suspension or revocation of that permit. Because this information will be difficult for the Division to obtain across the state, it would be beneficial for the emergency rule to contemplate a process for municipalities to submit reports.

We would like to thank the Division of Alcohol Beverages for their willingness to continue to work with the League on this important regulatory issue. If you have questions or require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

*Toni Herkert*

Toni Herkert
Government Affairs Director
League of Wisconsin Municipalities