



Put In Your 2¢ Worth...
About 2¢ a drink yields \$44 million annually
to reduce the impact of
alcohol problems in Missouri.

Question:

A legislator asks: How would a two cent per drink surcharge on “hard liquor” (distilled spirits) change Missouri’s per-gallon charges on those products?

Answer:

It would double the rates from the current \$2.00 per gallon to \$4.00 per gallon. This new rate would be only slightly higher than the national average (see the chart below). This would be less than half-way to adjusting for the inflation that has occurred since 1971, the last year the rate was increased.

MISSOURI ALCOHOL IMPACT FACT #25

State Liquor (Distilled Spirits) Excise Charges
 As of July 1, 2004

| <u>STATE</u> | <u>PER GALLON</u> | <u>PER DRINK**</u> | <u>STATE</u> | <u>PER GALLON</u> | <u>PER DRINK**</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alaska | 12.80 | 1.35 | Rhode Island | 3.75 | .041 |
| Florida | 6.50 | .071 | Nevada | 3.60 | .040 |
| New York | 6.44 | .071 | California | 3.30 | .036 |
| New Mexico | 6.06 | .066 | Wisconsin | 3.25 | .036 |
| Hawaii | 5.92 | .063 | Arizona | 3.00 | .033 |
| Oklahoma * | 5.56 | .061 | South Carolina | 2.72 | .030 |
| Minnesota | 5.03 | .055 | Indiana | 2.68 | .029 |
| Connecticut | 4.50 | .049 | Arkansas * | 2.50 | .027 |
| Illinois * | 4.50 | .049 | Kansas * | 2.50 | .027 |
| New Jersey | 4.40 | .048 | Louisiana | 2.50 | .027 |
| Tennessee * | 4.40 | .048 | North Dakota | 2.50 | .027 |
| Massachusetts | 4.05 | .044 | Texas | 2.40 | .026 |
| Missouri - Proposed | 4.00 | .044 | Colorado | 2.28 | .025 |
| South Dakota | 3.93 | .043 | Missouri – Current | 2.00 | .022 |
| U. S. Average | 3.91 | .043 | Kentucky * | 1.92 | .021 |
| Georgia | 3.79 | .041 | District of Columbia | 1.50 | .016 |
| Delaware | 3.75 | .041 | Maryland | 1.50 | .016 |
| Nebraska * | 3.75 | .041 | | | |

* Contiguous States

** One drink = 1.4 oz.

Note: State monopoly stores in Alabama, Idaho, Iowa*, Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming.

Source: Based on information provided by the Federation of Tax Administrators:

<http://www.taxadmin.org/fta/rate/liquor.html>

For more information call one of the Missouri’s Alcohol Impact Coalition members below:

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