



Proposition 126: Third-party delivery of alcohol beverages Student Voter Information Guide

Colorado Proposition 126 would allow businesses with liquor licenses to offer third-party delivery services for alcohol. After the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, on July 10th of 2020, Colorado governor Jared Polis signed the law SB 20-213. This law allowed the sale of alcohol for takeout as well as delivery in the state of Colorado until July 1st, 2021.

A yes on Colorado's Proposition 126 allows third-party food and drink delivery companies to deliver alcohol from grocery stores, gas stations, bars, restaurants, etc. This will be implemented starting March 1st of 2023. Currently, the delivery of alcohol is prohibited as the temporary law, SB 20-213, was repealed on July 1st, 2021. This would change the previous proposition to enable the takeout and delivery of alcoholic beverages to be permanent and more solidified. In July, 75% of survey respondents said they would utilize third-party alcohol delivery if passed. This survey was conducted by the Colorado Restaurant Association (CRA). Sonia Riggs, president and CEO of the Colorado Restaurant Association states that “After two-plus years of pandemic-related hardship, continued labor shortages, skyrocketing inflation...permanently securing alcohol to-go for restaurants and bars cannot come at a better time.” This proposition also facilitates one-stop shopping, which can provide comfort and satisfaction for consumers making it easier to support businesses from home. Many alcohol retailers have funded many other businesses to help strive with alcohol deliveries, this includes Total Wine and Spirits.

Guide by Lauren Yockey, Delilah Lementino, Matthew Miller, and Julia Giecold

Thank you to student researchers in Introduction to Political Science and volunteers from the League of Women Voters of La Plata County for producing this guide.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, revenues within alcohol deliveries increased between main retailers and third-party vendors. Though it is highly beneficial for the alcohol industry, the third-party companies would be liable for any issues that occur after the alcohol has left the store's property if not in compliance with law and regulations. With such compliance and responsibilities, this proposition of delivery services would thrive.

However, not everyone argues for this proposition; some people make arguments relating to their concerns. A no vote on this proposition would maintain the current law since the repeal of SB 20-213. The current law does not allow the delivery of any alcoholic beverages. Some people believe that if alcohol could be delivered using companies like DoorDash or GrubHub there wouldn't be enough control. They think that this law would aid in the selling/distribution to minors. When the alcohol is sold in-store, multiple safeguards are in place to ensure the alcohol is going to adults over the legal drinking age of 21. There are also conflicting delivery laws due to the volume of residential delivery locations, which makes the proposition harder to regulate. Such laws and regulations come from the Liquor Enforcement Division (LED), which states that all retailers are required to have licenses prior to selling alcohol. They shall also comply with regulation 47-426(B)(1) and (2) providing a copy of written agreement with any ordering or delivery agent prior to making orders/deliveries to the LED for review. If on the other hand, retailers are using its own employees to take and deliver orders it is not required to submit anything for LED to review but must ensure their employees are in compliance with Regulations 47-426 as well as other laws applicable.

In conclusion, the proposition holds benefits for many local liquor stores, and restaurants as well as has its disadvantages that may cause concern within Proposition 126. Benefits that hold a booming business within both the primary and third party, comfortability and sustainability provided for consumers. It also is more likely to lower the number of DUIs reported annually. In opposition, the lack of safeguards provided by third-party services cause concern about proper delivery handling. As retailers are unreliable for any unlawful acts that happen within the third-party delivery. This causes it to become difficult for law enforcement to enact and to hold one accountable.



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