

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission 95 Fourth Street, Suite 3 Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CONTROL COMMISSION ADVISORY REGARDING THE END OF COVID-RELATED RESTRICTIONS

On May 17, 2021, Governor Charlie Baker announced the lifting of COVID-related restrictions and the expected date for the end of the Commonwealth's state of emergency. The details of the Governor's plans can be found HERE.

Beginning Saturday, May 29, 2021, all COVID-related restrictions for licensees are lifted and all licensees can <u>resume normal operations</u>.

The Governor's COVID-19 State of Emergency will end Monday, June 15, 2021. The end of the state of emergency brings with it two important changes:

<u>Patios/Outdoor Expansions</u>: licensees that have been approved for expanded patio/outdoor service pursuant to the Governor's executive orders <u>may continue their outdoor operations for 60 days after the end of the state of emergency, which is Sunday, August 15, 2021.</u>

The Governor and the Legislature are working on legislation to extend this deadline. However, no extension has yet been approved. Licensees that seek to continue patio/outdoor service after August 15, 2021, are encouraged to apply in the ordinary course for an alteration of premises with their local licensing authorities.

<u>Takeaway/delivery of alcohol</u>: establishments licensed for on-premises consumption of alcohol must end takeaway and delivery sales of alcohol on June 15, 2021.

Anyone with questions, comments, or concerns about the end of the state of emergency and its impacts on licensees should contact the Governor's Office by calling 2-1-1.

We thank licensees and the local licensing authorities for all their support and compliance during this state of emergency; we understand this has been a trying time for the entire industry. We continue to be available to local licensing authorities and licensees going forward.

Local licensing authorities are reminded that on May 26, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., the ABCC is hosting a virtual meeting to answer any questions and address concerns from local licensing authorities. All are encouraged to attend. This call will be recorded for those who cannot attend live.

As always, all licensees must ensure that they comply with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and that sales of alcoholic beverages take place only as authorized by federal, state, and local law. All questions should be directed to the ABCC Executive Director Ralph Sacramone at rsacramone@tre.state.ma.us or (617) 727-3040 x 731.

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