

1/17/25

GAC Meeting

Jessica, Emma, Hannah, Matt ,Paul, Chris, Terry, Evan (law student working with Jessica this year.

Jessica Updates:

- Things kicked off last week, a lot of new people and more political balance in the house and the senate. Committees are all more balanced than they have been in the past.
- Not a lot of bills introduced yet, Governor state address education funding and reducing the burden on property tax payers. Next week the governor will lay out the details in his budget address on Tuesday and return to the foundation formula. Brigham test, how the state funds education. Goal - Fix education and get more housing built and make Vermont a more affordable place to live.
- No alcohol priorities - revenue from liquor sales are down, consumption is down. Back where we were before covid and in a decline. Less alcohol consumption in general. We should be planning on less revenue coming from alcohol sales - projecting a 1% reduction in 2025.
- Affordability is the goal for 2025
- Birjong - wants to have brewers and distillers in to give status on operations and what we want.
- If there are any policy changes that would help our industries they are open to listening to make the industry more successful.
- DTC Reciprocity will be introduced.
- Could be a quiet session for liquor
- Bill to make all Vermont businesses accept cash - keep this on the list
- All bills are new - any bill introduced now is alive for 2 years, nay of 2026 all the bills die, 2 year cycle
- Surgeon General warning - BA will fight that. 6 month roll out if this goes through.
- Revisiting made in Vermont -
- Jessica got an email - hearing there was a rumor about the liquor board changing the law about manufacturing licenses - expanding retail locations per manufacturing license liquor board reconsidering allowing multiple license per vermont manufacturer.
 - A few people have heard this - Jessica will keep an eye out.