

Summary of Keg Registration Information

Keg registration policies first appeared in the western states, with Oregon being the first to enact a statewide keg registration program in 1978. Idaho (1981), North Dakota (1983), New Mexico (1989), Washington (1989), Maine (1991-the first eastern state to pass keg registration policy), South Dakota (1991), Vermont (1992), the District of Columbia (1993), Nebraska (1993), Maryland (1994), California (1994), and Connecticut (1999).

What some local communities are doing:

Greenfield, Massachusetts keg registration policy requires that metal tags be placed on all kegs sold in the town. The name, address, and birth date of the buyer is recorded along with the keg ID number in a journal that is kept by the keg retailer. The journal is made available to all law enforcement officers and is checked monthly by an officer. The keg deposit is \$50 and the purchaser forfeits this deposit if the keg is not returned or is returned without a tag. The retailer is allowed to keep \$10 of the forfeited deposit, while the remaining money goes to a local alcohol education program. The successful implementation and enforcement of the keg registration law has been facilitated by municipal and county level planning discussions among police chiefs, liquor licensing authorities, business owners, and citizens

In Billings, Montana, a keg registration ordinance was passed by the City Council in June, 2002. This was a year-long process, which requires permanent marking on each keg that identifies where and when it was purchased.

In Madison, Wisconsin, in December, 2001, the City Council passed an ordinance that requires keg delivery requests be made in person at the store. The purchaser must show two forms of ID at the store and be present at the delivery address to sign a receipt upon delivery. Records of all keg purchases are required to be kept by the stores for two years.

California state law requires that when kegs are sold, buyers must show identification and fill out a form writing in their names and addresses. Currently it is required that keg tags be easily removable, which makes it harder to trace kegs to the purchaser. Isla Vista California AOD Council, located next to the University of California, is currently developing a proposal for a demonstration project to improve keg tagging methodology. The Council plans to propose using permanently attached serial numbers on kegs in place of removable tags. They also plan to fund a staff position to work specifically on tagging and tracking issues.

In fall 2003, the city council of Laramie, Wyoming, the University of Wyoming's home, approved a keg registration ordinance to reduce underage drinking.

There is a new state law proposal for North Carolina to require all kegs to be registered and tagged with identification information (2005). This proposal states that each tag will have the purchaser's name, age, phone number, address, and the location where the keg will be consumed, along with other information.