Governor Ducey Announces 90-Day Fee Relief For Restaurants, Bars Impacted By COVID-19

News Release

March 31, 2020

PHOENIX — To provide additional assistance to restaurants and bars facing loss due to COVID-19, Governor Doug Ducey today announced the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control will defer the payment of all liquor licensing fees by 90 days. Previously, missing a liquor licensing payment period could result in a restaurant's inability to sell liquor or even the loss of its liquor license.

Access this information in Spanish **HERE (https://azgovernor.gov/sites/default/files/spanish_bars_restaurants.pd**

Today's action fulfills a request by Arizona small business coalitions and provides additional financial relief to establishments and small businesses that could have faced penalties for late fees come April 1.

"This is a tremendously tough time for our small businesses, their employees and the communities they serve," said Governor Ducey. "This action is part of a larger relief effort that includes working with our legislative and federal partners to provide flexibility and make loans and assistance available to help with needs like payroll and rent. It's just one of many efforts, and we'll continue to work night and day to keep our small and medium-sized businesses solvent and do everything we can help them make it through this public health emergency."

"We recognize that supporting our community during this unprecedented time requires an all-hands-on-deck approach," said Director of the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control, John Cocca. "Deferring these fees for 90 days while many establishments are either closed or offering take-out only is the right thing, and we are glad to partner in this effort."

On March 26, Governor Ducey issued an Executive Order **helping licensed businesses, industries and professionals (https://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2020/03/governor-ducey-issues-executive-order-expand-licensing-opportunities)** as we work to slow the spread of COVID-19 by deferring licensing renewal requirements. On March 28, Governor Ducey **signed a bipartisan state budget (https://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2020/03/governor-ducey-signs-bipartisan-state-budget-agreement)** agreement that adds $50 million for Arizona's COVID-19 response, including dollars to assist struggling small businesses and workers. The Governor also has taken action to **expand unemployment insurance benefits (https://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2020/03/arizonas-covid-19-actions-date)** and waive any increase in employer payments to the unemployment insurance fund for businesses whose employees receive benefits under this provision.

Arizona small businesses impacted by COVID-19 can apply for loan assistance through the Small Business Administration. More resources for businesses have been made available by the Arizona Commerce Authority **HERE (https://www.azcommerce.com/covid-19/)**.

View a full list of Arizona's COVID-19 response efforts **HERE (https://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2020/03/arizonas-covid-19-actions-date)**.

View daily Arizona updates **HERE (https://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2020/03/arizonas-covid-19-**

actions-date).

View information on COVID-19, resources and volunteer opportunities at **ArizonaTogether.org (http://arizonatogether.org/)**.

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