

About SeattleNMA

The Seattle Music and Nightlife Association (SeattleNMA), is a non-profit trade association comprised of bars, restaurants, nightclubs, promoters, bands, DJs, and patrons who represent Seattle's music and nightlife scene.

SeattleNMA 2007 Washington State Legislative Agenda

- **Extending the date for compliance of new state regulations requiring nightclubs to install sprinkler systems by December 2007.** A state law passed in 2005 requires all nightclubs to have a sprinkler system. However, there are a number of challenges to clubs being able to meet that deadline
 - Limited number of certified contractors who can install the systems.
 - Significant time constraints on the ability to hire architects, design the systems, receive bids and obtain necessary permits within the short time frame. Many clubs in the state were just recently notified of the new requirement.
 - The costs to install these systems range from \$25,000 to \$100,000 or more. Some clubs will not be able to afford to pay for these systems and will no longer offer live music. Some type of tax break or financing assistance may help some of these music venues survive.
- **Updating state liquor laws to modernize the nightlife industry and be more reflective of current consumer trends.**
 - Provide extended hours of service on weekends. This would reduce the impact to neighborhoods at closing time when all the bars, taverns and nightclubs patrons are leaving at once.
 - Allow pitcher and bottle table service. This service is available in most other states.
 - Increased funding for the Washington State Liquor Control Board for enhanced customer services and oversight.
- **Elimination of the 25-foot rule associated with the statewide indoor smoking ban.** Bars, taverns and nightclubs can better manage patrons if they are closer to the establishment. Increased residential complaints have increased as patrons are stepping further away from club entrances and closer to condos and apartments.

SeattleNMA 2007 City of Seattle Legislative Agenda

- Additional police officers and patrols for the entertainment zones of the city.
- Development of a balanced comprehensive nightlife plan to ensure harmony between neighborhoods and nightlife establishments.
- Provide clubs who charge cover the alternative for a "flat fee" payment as an alternative to the current admission tax surcharge.