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NCSLA Goes to Washington, D.C. In June 2012!

The National Conference of State Liquor Administrators, Incorporated (NCSLA) will convene June 20-24th at the world-famous Mayflower Renaissance Hotel for its 2012 annual meeting and conference. Washington, D.C. is the host city for the Conference.

Not long ago, Americans were more likely to consume Capri Sun® juice out of a plastic pouch than a 50-milliliter shot of 80-proof spiced rum. Today, more manufacturers are pursuing flexible packaging alternatives (plastic pouches, paper bottles, and aluminum cans) in an effort to make their products more appealing to consumers and reduce costs associated with shipping and storing these products.

Most states defer to federal agencies when determining whether to approve or disapprove new product packaging. It is widely believed that most proposed packaging receives federal approval, unless it contains false or misleading information. As the costs associated with overconsumption and youth access continue to rise, some state Regulators wonder whether their respective agencies should take a more active role in determining the suitability of such packaging within their respective states.

Do states have an obligation to play a more significant role in the packaging approval process, and if so, what legal obstacles would those states face when enacting more stringent packaging requirements?

Bright and early risers on Saturday morning will be treated to a tremendous panel entitled **“Packaging Approval – Putting the State Back in States' Rights”**.

Join panelists Janet Evans of the Federal Trade Commission, Steve Schmidt from National Alcohol Beverage Control Association, Marlene Trestman with the Maryland Attorney General's Office, and Jim Webster, Illinois Attorney, as Moderator John A. Maisch, Oklahoma ABLE Commission, leads a discussion on whether state governments should play a more prominent role in the packaging approval process.

Start making your plans NOW to come to Washington, DC from June 20-24, 2012 for this year's annual meeting of the NCSLA! **Conference registration is now open** so visit www.ncsla.org today for details! And don't forget to make a hotel reservation – rooms are going fast!!! Watch for more exciting updates on the NCSLA 2012 Annual Conference to be broadcast in the coming weeks.

About National Conference of State Liquor Administrators, Incorporated:

A national organization of state alcohol beverage regulators, founded June 19, 1934, in Chicago, Illinois, whose purposes are to promote the enactment of the most effective and equitable types of state alcoholic beverage control laws; devise and promote the use of methods which provide the best enforcement of the particular alcoholic beverage control laws in each state; work for the adoption of uniform laws insofar they may be practicable; promote harmony with the federal government in its administration of the Federal Alcohol Administration Act; and strive for harmony in the administration of the alcoholic beverage control laws among the several states. Visit www.ncsla.org for more information.