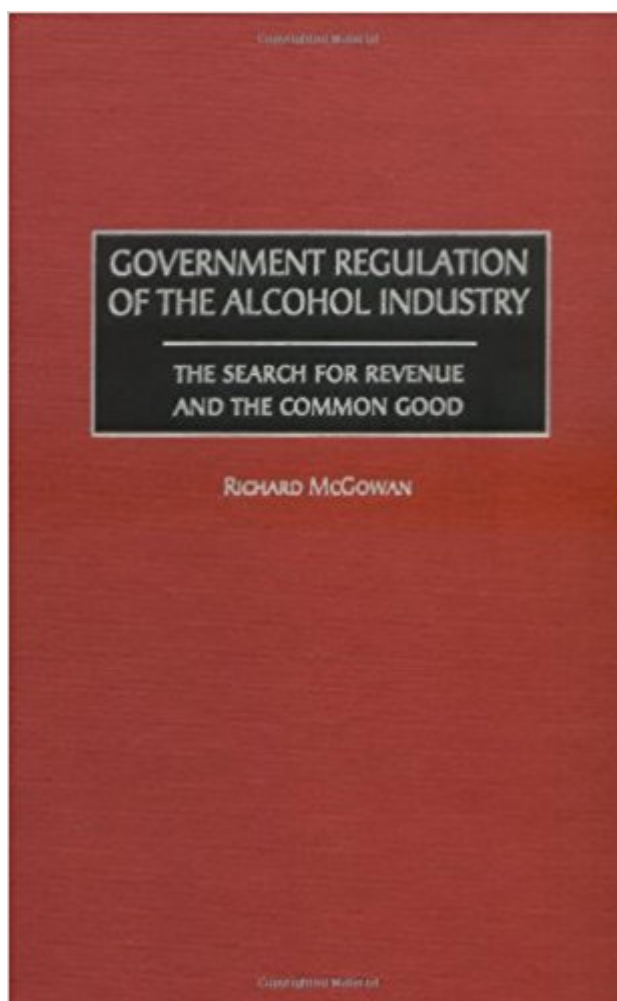




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Government Regulation Of The Alcohol Industry: The Search For Revenue And The Common Good



Synopsis

This is the third book in what the author calls his sin trilogy: the gambling, tobacco, and alcohol industries. Similar to the gambling and tobacco industries, the alcohol industry is one in which the business and public policy processes are intimately linked. Furthermore, it is a highly regulated industry whose very existence depends upon the will of government at all levels and branches. What all the industries share is that they are viewed as a painless source of revenue for government. The alcohol industry is composed of three segments, namely beer, distilled spirits, and wine, each with a distinct product and market. Since the end of Prohibition, public policy makers have developed a certain tolerance for alcohol products, but they continue to grapple with the question of how to deal with the alcohol problem. While the author updates the current structure and strategies of competition among these industries, his primary rationale for doing so is to analyze how these industries react to increased public scrutiny of their business activities. The other unique feature of this book is its emphasis on how public policy measures affect the sale of beer, distilled spirits, and wine at the state level.

Book Information

Hardcover: 192 pages

Publisher: Praeger; Ex-library edition (August 26, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1567200346

ISBN-13: 978-1567200348

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.5 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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RICHARD MCGOWAN is Adjunct Professor in Economics at Boston College. He is coauthor (with John Mahon) of *Industry as a Player in the Political and Social Arena* (1996), and author of *Business, Politics and Cigarettes* (1995) and *State Lotteries* (1994), all published by Quorum.

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