Senator Findley,

I am the operating partner and distiller of New Basin Distilling Company in Madras and desperately need your help. Oregon distilleries need support to help grow and develop our industry to hopefully become known for Oregon whiskey as our counterparts, wine and beer, have be able to accomplish. I don't see this happening without some help from our lawmakers.

During this short session, Oregon legislators have the opportunity to review and pass SB1565. This bill would allow us to keep a greater percentage of proceeds from the sales we make in our tasting room and tasting room only. Last year my tasting room paid over 32% in direct tax on products sold. This amount does not include any federal excise taxes, cost of goods sold and overall operating expenses.

If SB1565 is passed, New Basin Distilling Company would be able to keep a greater percentage of or our tasting room earnings, thereby allowing us to reinvest in our company and keep our doors open. Some recent Oregon distilleries have closed mostly due to the Oregon OLCC tax and fee structure. New Basin Distilling Company could be another casualty without your support and relief.

To conclude, additional support to Oregon distilleries and their tasting rooms will create an opportunity for Oregon to grow and develop our industry. This will provide additional economic development and be a win-win for everyone. Please consider your support of SB1565.

Cheers from the New Basin,

Rick Molitor, Managing Partner/Head Distiller

New Basin Distilling Company

Madras, Oregon

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