

**From:** [Jason Greenwood](#)  
**To:** [Sen Boles](#)  
**Cc:** [LRO](#)  
**Subject:** Asking for your support of SB1565  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 4, 2020 7:37:26 PM

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Dear Senator Boles,

I am asking for your support for SB1565. My wife and I are the owners of Salem's only distillery, Divine Distillers.

We love being in Oregon, and Salem in particular, but the burden of paying for OLCC to transport, distribute, and store alcohol that never leaves our tasting room makes it difficult for a small business like ours to launch.

We have been open 18 months and have hired 5 people and been active in community and fund raising events for many local charities. We support and source almost exclusively from our local farmers and have partnered with them to use their products to create our Brandy and Vodka. We supply the farmers the left over fruit pulp to feed their livestock.

It has truly been a joy to be engaged in the community in a deeper and more meaningful way as a business owner. We have hired 5 people, and are looking to hire more, including a person who was homeless before this opportunity. However, as we look at our business model we wonder if it is worth it to keep a tasting room in Oregon. We need to look to other states where we can make more profits - in fact, we lose money on our tasting room if we staff it. We would love to stay open and be a hub for visitors to the valley to come and hear about the bounty of our region, but without SB1565 making this a more viable business option we are not sure how long we will be able to support our tasting room.

Please support the passing of SB1565 and allow small distilleries to continue to bring tourism and employment to Oregon.

Thank you,

--Jason.

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