

Submitter: Angela Chisum

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Economic Development and Small Business

Measure: HB2502

To the esteemed members of the House Committee On Economic Development and Small Business,

I write you today in support of HB2502. I am a liquor agent/store owner of 4 years, and a proud Bend resident of nearly 18. The constant threat of privatization is never far from my mind, and would have a significant detrimental impact on myself, my family, and my wonderful staff. The most recent challenge to state control of spirits, showed there were holes in the previous attempt to protect our businesses, and HB2502 would offer further protection. Especially in light of recent events with the OLCC, I urge you to pass this change to assure liquor store owners and their staff don't suffer due to an alteration to a system we have no control over.

Although we are called agents of the state, we are in fact independent contractors that are bound to a system that could change completely and is well out of our control. We, as small business owners, ask that you protect our livelihoods from the big business that is hellbent on trying to change the system for their benefit alone. It would not improve things for the customer at all, they would have less selection and higher prices. And it would absolutely devastate most liquor stores. I often feel it not a matter of if, but when privatization will occur. Your support of this change will help this future transition be in favor of small businesses and their communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Angela Chisum