

Submitter: Ivy Hover
On Behalf Of: All Oregon Craft Beverage Producers
Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety
Response
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3197

Beer, wine, cider and spirits are an essential part of Oregon's economy and identity, employing hundreds of thousands of Oregonians and contributing \$17 billion in economic activity. Sadly, we've experienced record closures as these businesses struggle in hard times and with new tariffs, etc. production costs just continue to rise. A new 8% sales tax would only make it harder for Oregonians trying to make their hard-earned dollars stretch when making purchases, and therefore making it even more challenging for businesses to stay viable. Fox12 News just run a story with a chart showing the average cost of an empty aluminum beverage can will rise to approximately 20 cents each for macro producers, however If you are at the scale of an Oregon Craft Beverage Producer that same can will cost more than double at an estimated 46 cents. This is what our industry is facing across the board, so don't make things worse. Lawmakers should not be inflating prices through regressive sales taxes on constituents when they're already at record highs. This doesn't just affect the producers, it affects farmers who grow the Oregon products needed to make craft beverages, and it will also affect employees. Thank you.