

Dear Members of the Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response,

Please OPPOSE HB 3197, which would create Oregon's first ever state grocery and restaurant sales tax on Oregonians.

We farm vineyards in Marion and Yamhill Counties. 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. We are facing challenging times because of inflation, supply chain issues, the pandemic, wildfires, more and more regulations and fewer people drinking. In the past two years we've lost more than 60 wineries – a 5% reduction in 2024 alone.

With the highest cost increases in generations and no end in sight, a new, unprecedented 8% sales tax would only make it more difficult for Oregonians trying to make their hard-earned dollars stretch. An 8% increase in the cost of Oregon wine (which already has the highest average bottle price in the nation due to the high cost of production in our state), would have a detrimental impact on Oregon agriculture including those farming hops, wine grapes and cider apples. We are already struggling.

I also urge you to oppose House Bill 3197 as it would harm me and every other legal-drinking-aged Oregonian, who just want to grab a glass of Oregon wine, beer or cider with a colleague after work or at a ball game, take mom out for brunch with mimosas, or celebrate an anniversary with a special bottle of Oregon wine.

Oregon lawmakers should be working on policies that help our homegrown industries thrive, and they definitely should not be raising prices through regressive sales taxes on constituents. HB 3197 will only harm Oregonians and industries that contribute so much to Oregon's identity, culture and economy.

Please **Oppose** HB 3197!

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Dana Estensen  
Silverton, Oregon