

April 1, 2025

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

Thank you for your representation and service in our state Capitol. I know it's often a thankless job.

I urge you to oppose House Bill 3197, which is before your committee, as it would harm me and every other legal-drinking-aged Oregonian, who just wants to grab a pint with a coworker after work or the sports enthusiast buying a 6-pack for a watch party with friends or the hiker celebrating after reaching the top of the summit.

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.

Oregon is home to more than 300 breweries creating 50,000 jobs, \$2.8 billion in wages and contributing \$8.7 billion in economic activity for the state each year. With its major city nicknamed Beervana, Oregon is one of the birthplaces of craft beer helping put this state on the map. Yet because of challenging times, with inflation, supply chain issues, employee shortages, a pandemic and fewer people drinking, we've lost more than 70 breweries, taprooms and brewpubs in the last two years alone.

Lawmakers should not be raising prices through regressive sales taxes on constituents when we're already experiencing record highs. Please, don't advance HB 3197, which will only harm Oregonians and an industry that contributes so much to the state's identity, culture and economy.

Sincerely,  
Camille Dorstad