

Submitter: James Miller

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety
Response

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3197

2022 and onward has been a serious struggle for our business. We have been through 3 rounds of layoffs and do not want to go through another one. We had a really hard time in 2024. We never got the business in the summer that usually allows us to put some cash in the bank to make it through the winter. Tourism seems to be way down in Portland. Customers do not have the disposable income they once had and are fearful to go out to dine. All of our taprooms were down 35-40% in 2024 vs 2023 and we're seeing that trend continue into 2025. January, February and March were all down 35-40% from the same months in 2024. We do not see new 21 year olds in our taprooms anymore. That entire demographic it just not drinking beer. There are way less people drinking now than ever. We are also competing with Cannabis these days and also these new Cannabis beverages. We would love to be able to make them in our facility but as I understand it we are not allowed to do that.

We have managed to cut out costs from our suppliers in 2024 so we have a chance of making it and now we're dealing with price increases due to tarrifs and the trade war. We cannot sustain any more price increases.

We need help not new taxes. I say this as a brewery that was one of the biggest success stories in the last 10 years. We will not be around much longer if this keeps up.

Thank You.

Sincerely,
James Andy Miller