

Submitter: Stephen Hunter
On Behalf Of: NAV
Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety
Response
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3197

Dear Representatives,

I urge a strong NO vote on HB 3197.

First, there is no substantiating studies or evidence that higher prices for for a recreational beverage reduces the consumption of that beverage. Just look at the soft drink market and diabetes.

Secondly, adding cost and the burden of managing the tax collection on the retailer is unfair and an added expense.

Thirdly, our farmers that provide the raw ingredients for fruit and grain drinks that become alcoholic beverages are excellent stewards of the land. Assuring a healthy crop requires healthy soil and precise water and nutrient management.

Lastly, the entire alcoholic beverage industry is a major tourist draw for the entire state of Oregon. Please don't punish this industry with increased prices and bookkeeping burdens.

Thank you.