

Submitter: Gillian Summers

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety  
Response

Measure, Appointment or  
Topic: HB3197

I'm a resident of Salem where we once had a thriving small craft brewery industry that created community and revenue for the city and state. After Covid, those small, locally-owned businesses took a substantial loss and many had to close. The few that were able to remain open did so also at a loss, but have strived to meet needs, create events, and maintain that community environment that our state so desperately needs.

I'm also a bartender for one of these small breweries. I love my job, I love my employer, and I love my customers. Knowing the brewery where I'm employed has taken financial hit after hit but still they keep on has been bittersweet to see.

I'm also a merchandiser for a beer distribution company that works hard to provide opportunities for many of these smaller breweries to have a wider customer base and a chance to continue producing revenue to the state.

I tell you this because were this bill to pass and yet ANOTHER tax be imposed upon Oregonians, it would not only be harmful to my customers, it would be detrimental to my employers as well. The craft beer industry is struggling as it is, I ask you to not hamstringing it even further by implementing a tax that seems superfluous, seeing as our government has been unable to account time and time again for funds that seem to have sifted through hands and never landing at their intended designations.

You would not only be hurting small businesses here in the state, you would be damaging the livelihood of thousands of Oregonians who are just trying to live and work in this state.

Thank you.

Gillian Summers