

To the House Committee on Revenue,

I am writing to submit my strong opposition to HB3940, which would impose a 5-cent surcharge on beverage containers sold in Oregon.

As the owner of a small, independent brewery based in Portland, I cannot overstate how devastating this measure would be—not only to my business, but to our entire industry. The economic reality for craft producers right now is incredibly difficult. In just the past year, our sales have dropped by 15%. Tourism is still sluggish, alcohol consumption is down, and we continue to navigate the high cost of doing business in Portland—compounded by safety concerns and rising insurance premiums.

We are not thriving. We are simply trying to survive.

Our brewery employs Oregonians. We contribute meaningful tax revenue to both the state and the City of Portland. We are a part of what makes this place culturally rich and economically diverse. This proposed surcharge will not be absorbed by “big alcohol”—it will land squarely on the shoulders of small businesses like mine and the consumers who already face high prices.

Adding another surcharge at a time like this is more than we can bear. This policy will not lead to public benefit—it will lead to closures, layoffs, and the further erosion of Oregon’s vibrant beverage industry.

I urge you to vote no on HB3940. Please support small businesses like ours by rejecting this punitive, short-sighted proposal.

Sincerely,

Brenda Crow

Partner / Little Beast Brewing

Clackamas, OR