

Membership,

If you want your OLCC taxes in your tasting room to be reduced from 33% to 5% then please send 5 letters asking for support of SB1565. The timing of this is critical. We need these to be in email boxes this week.

Representative Dan Rayfield Rep.DanRayfield@oregonlegislature.gov

Speaker Tina Kotek Rep.TinaKotek@oregonlegislature.gov

Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward Sen.ElizabethSteinerHayward@oregonlegislature.gov

Senator Betsy Johnson Sen.BetsyJohnson@oregonlegislature.gov

Representative Barbara Smith Warner Rep.BarbaraSmithWarner@oregonlegislature.gov

In your letter please ask for support for SB1565.

We are close to getting this over the finish line but it is important that all of us are very vocal right now. We have picked up some new and unexpected opposition from Recover Oregon.

Below is an example letter for inspiration.

Thank you,
Brad Irwin,
President, Oregon Distillers Guild

Sample Letter

Rep. Smith Warner,

Thank you for your service in Oregon.

I own a distillery in Bend, called Oregon Spirit Distillers. We are a family owned distillery that uses over 350 tons of Oregon grown grain to produce whiskey and fine spirits.

You may be aware that the current OLCC taxation structure requires that our tasting room pays 33% of its retail sales to OLCC. After cost of goods this leaves only 17% for us to meet our expenses. It is impossible in Oregon for a tasting room to break even.

SB1565 would reduce this tax from 33% to 5% for the first \$250k in sales annually. If our taxes in the tasting room were lowered it would impact our business significantly in three areas.

- 1) We would be able to add a full-time staff person and increase the compensation of the staff we have now.
- 2) We would purchase more Oregon Grown Grain.
- 3) We would be able to invest some of the money in equipment to grow our business.

I believe that a healthy distilling industry can have long lasting impact in the Oregon Economy.

Thank you,

Brad Irwin
Owner,
Oregon Spirit Distillers

Oregon Distillers Guild
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