A letter in support of House Bill 5212

Dragons Blood Elixir is a small business making locally sourced hot sauce in CT. We do most of our direct sales at farmers markets and have found tasting to be an essential component to our success. Our' 'simple sampling' method was developed with the help of our local health department and satisfies all state regulations. While local health departments play a critical role in consumer safety, allowing each and every one of them to levy a fee for the same 'consultation' is of questionable validity. Why is it that in some districts the fee is a reasonable $30 while in others fees in excess of $100 are demanded- for the same consultation? Yearly, combining all the fees from all the districts we set up in, it costs us over $1300 for all the certificates necessary. It is widely accepted that small businesses are important contributors to our economic recovery, some of these small entrepreneurs will benefit from passage of this bill. An additional consideration is that it actually makes sense to streamline the licensing process.

Thank you for your time,

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