

From: Chris McNaboe ~~cmcnaboe@horizonsct.org~~
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2018 12:54 PM
To: gltestimony
Cc: Sen. Flexer, Mae
Subject: In Support of HB 5036 – An Act Promoting Craft Breweries and Distilleries and Price Fairness

Dear Representative D 'Agostino, Senator Leone, Senator Witkos, Representative Smith, and distinguished members of the General Law Committee. My name is Chris McNaboe. I am submitting written testimony in support of H.B. 5036 – An Act Promoting Craft Breweries and Distilleries and Price Fairness. As a resident of the State of Connecticut I want to thank you for the opportunity to voice my support of House Bill 5036.

I'm a huge supporter of CT Beer! The past five years have really seen a massive uptick in availability and quality for in-state beer manufacturers. We have one the best craft breweries in my town! Watching the industry grow at such a speed has been truly amazing, and with that growth has come growth in skilled labor, charitable giving and community-building activities. Our agency has been the beneficiary of such charitable efforts from my local Brewery.

I often choose to visit the tasting rooms of independent breweries as this is the cheapest, freshest and most informative way for me to buy beer. I know that the money I spend in a local tasting room isn't going to a massive overseas corporation and the beer I receive is of top quality and freshness. My support for HB 5036 mainly stems from my support of the CT beer industry. Until recently, I was unaware that it is in fact a law that breweries can only sell me nine liters of beer in a day. This is an old blue law restriction that needs to end.. I find it ridiculous that the state maintains such a law restricting the potential sales and subsequent growth of our flourishing brewing industry. This seems backwards. In a state desperate to create jobs, it seems like stifling a manufacturing industry with proven growth is the wrong way to go. I urge you to pass HB 5036, and show your support for our in-state manufacturers of beer!

In only the last few years CT has gone from about ten licensed breweries to over sixty! This is an incredible feat and has in part been fostered by loosened regulations imposed by the state on these small manufacturers. I urge you to support HB 5036 today and be a part of creating a flourishing manufacturing industry in the state!

Thank you,

Chris

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