

I am writing to give my support for voting YES to house bill 5036. As someone who not only frequents breweries in my personal time throughout all of New England, but also volunteers and works in the industry, I can see the full benefit of passing this bill. CT is currently behind the curve regarding what we allow breweries to sell to the public. Why is it I can walk into a package store and walk out with no limits, but when I want to support my local brewery I'm told I cannot even purchase a full case of beer? It makes it even worse knowing that I can hop the border into MA and bring my business outside of the state to purchase a case from a brewery there. I'm proud of the CT brewery scene and all of the hard work that has made it what it is today. You'll see a sense of comradery and community within the CT beer scene that is hard to come by in today's times. Passing this bill and increasing the limits will not only continue to grow that community right here in CT, but it will open it up to our surrounding states, where consumers will be more willing to drive the distance to CT and spend their money within our breweries, knowing they can bring a sufficient amount of product back home to then share with their friends...who will then in turn come visit themselves. This bill will help increase tourism within our state, and has the potential to bring in some amazing businesses such as Trillium, who is already greatly succeeding in two locations within MA. Please consider the positive effect this bill will have on our state, and vote yes to bill 5036.

Best,
Caitlin Millerd