



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL

REPRESENTATIVE BRIAN OHLER
SIXTY-FOURTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 4200
300 CAPITOL AVENUE
HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591

CAPITOL: (860) 240-8700
TOLL FREE: 1-800-842-1423
Brian.Ohler@housegop.ct.gov

MEMBER
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE

Testimony

In Support of House Bill 5036

AN ACT PROMOTING CRAFT BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES AND PRICE FAIRNESS

March 6, 2018

Co-Chair Leone, Witkos, D'Agostino, Ranking Member Smith, and members of the General Law Committee. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity today to provide testimony in favor of HB 5036.

I introduced to the committee a concept that would eliminate language in statute preventing the sale of more than 9 liters of beer from a farm brewery. This has been addressed in Section 1 (b) lines 42-56 of HB 5036.

Over the past year, I have learned so much with regard to the craft brewery and farm brewery industries. I have been given in depth tutorials and site visits at these remarkable facilities. After speaking with industry stakeholders it has become apparent that the 9 liter cap on daily purchases has become more burdensome than beneficial, especially when you consider the potential revenue gains that are being limited due to this preexisting language.

Thank you again for your consideration of HB 5036, and I urge the committee's support. I would like to yield my time to Mr. Barry Labendz, Co-Founder and General Manager of Kent Falls Brewing Co. in Kent, CT.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Ohler".

Brian Ohler
State Representative
64th District