



January 25, 2022

Testimony in Support of H 7060

Representative Joseph J. Solomon Jr
Chairman, House Committee on Corporations
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02903

On behalf of the Federal Hill Commerce Association and in particular our over 50 dining locations we wish to express our support for bill H 7060. The Federal Hill Commerce Association (FHCA) is in favor of passage of H 7060 with two requested amendments.

H 7060 adds a provision to the existing law that allows for “drink specials served as part of a larger transaction that includes a meal” and excludes snacks “including, but not limited to, pretzels, popcorn, chips, or similar food” as not meeting the definition of a meal. The FHCA would ask that the legislation is amended by removing “includes a meal” and adding “includes one or more items ordered from a restaurant’s menu” while keeping the exclusion of snacks. We felt that meal is a very vague term and some items like a pizza or chicken wings could serve as a meal to a person.

Secondly, H 7060 does not remove the ability for licensees to advertise or promote their specials. In this day of social media posts and subscriber-only newsletters, to not allow venues to let their followers, their opted-in clientele, know about a drink special seems counter-intuitive to how people interact and enjoy their favorite bars and restaurants. The FHCA asks that the legislation be amended to remove section (4)(b)(1) or at least allow for social media and other online promotions.

Respectfully, our Association urges you to pass H 7060 forward to the full House in this session with these two requested amendments. Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,
Armando Bisceglia
Chairman – Federal Hill Commerce Association