

Dawn Huntley

From: Craig Penardo <Shop@1142mainstreet.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2026 10:44 AM
To: House Municipal Government and Housing Committee
Subject: OPPOSE - H8231

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H8231 - OPPOSE

Chairman Casey and Members of the Committee,

House Bill 8231 undermines Rhode Island's population-based liquor license system—a critical public safety safeguard that limits alcohol access and prevents over-saturation. These ratios are designed to reduce underage access, impaired driving, and alcohol-related harm. By allowing Scituate to exceed these limits, the bill sets a dangerous precedent for similar carve-outs statewide, eroding a consistent regulatory framework.

For independent retailers, this creates unfair competition and devalues existing licenses built on scarcity and stability. Alcohol is not an ordinary commodity—it demands thoughtful control. Weakening population-based limits risks both public safety and the integrity of Rhode Island's three-tier system.

I respectfully urge you to oppose H8231.

Cheers!

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<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.1142mainstreet.com%2F&data=05%7C02%7CChouseMGH%40rilegislature.onmicrosoft.com%7C64dbaaffde4e439e031108de87583d0b%7C9fe6112ca456463789dc0f284ceffc66%7C0%7C0%7C639097010639092214%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiilwLjAuMDAwMCIslIAiOiJXaW4zMilslkFOljoiTWFpbGlldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C60000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Q5G33Z%2BrXqaLnIAAMfslu4SEaCGdWAFAD6O89z9R8E%3D&reserved=0>