

Jill Cataldi

From: Karen <haxtonkent@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:17 AM
To: House Small Business Committee
Subject: Opposition of H 7209 _ Haxton's Kent Liquors

To members of the House Committee on Small Business,

My name is Karen Haxton and I have been the owner of the small business Haxton's Kent Liquors in Warwick, Rhode Island for 26 years. I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 7209, which would allow class B/ Brewpub licenses to sell wine, beer, and mixed drinks.

This bill was originally passed as an emergency and temporary effort to support holders of brewpub manufacturer's licenses and class B license at the height of covid. During that time, I was not in opposition, however as covid passes laws need to go back to how they were before the pandemic. To allow these holders to sell wine, beer, and mixed drinks directly impacts our small business - we rely on customers to shop at retail stores for their at home beverages.

Small businesses like mine are an important part of Rhode Island's economy. I urge you to recognize the harm that Bill 7209 will cause to my store and others in the state that maintain a Class A license, and oppose the bill.

Sincerely,

Karen Haxton

Haxton's Kent Liquors
2334 West Shore Road
Warwick, RI 02889