



**State of Rhode Island**  
Office of Lieutenant Governor Sabina Matos

February 1, 2022

The Honorable Joseph Solomon, Jr.  
Chairman, House Committee on Corporations  
Room 101, Rhode Island State House  
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: 2022 – H 7209 – An Act Relating to Alcoholic Beverages**

Dear Chairman Solomon,

I am writing in strong support of 2022 House Bill H 7209, An Act Relating to Alcoholic Beverages – Manufacturing and Wholesale Licenses – Retail Licenses.

During my tenure as Chair of the Small Business Advocacy Council, I have received feedback from small business owners across the state. Restaurants and food service in particular have been struggling with the financial hardships and workforce shortages of the COVID-19 pandemic. Rhode Island's economy is dependent on our small business community, and our state must support their recovery in every way possible.

By making permanent the practice of allowing alcohol to be purchased with to-go orders, this bill will go a long way towards strengthening the resiliency of local restaurants and breweries.

I commend Representative Baginski for her continued leadership on this issue, and I am grateful that she and Representative McEntee have championed the needs of Rhode Island's small businesses during this public health crisis. I strongly advocate for the swift passage of 2022 – H 7209.

Sincerely,

Sabina Matos  
Lieutenant Governor

CC: The Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs  
The Honorable Jacquelyn Baginski  
Danica A. Iacoi, Esq.