

David Dadekian Eat Drink RI LLC 1061 Fish Hill Road Coventry, RI 02816

Testimony in support of H-7064 Sub A

January 30, 2024

Honorable Chairperson McEntee and the members of the House Committee on Small Business:

I am the founder and president of Eat Drink RI, one of the top media, marketing and event production companies in the region for all things culinary. As an entrepreneur and resident of Rhode Island who wants to see our state's food and drink economy thrive and expand to attract new business, I am in favor of passage of H-7064 Sub A.

Our restaurants and bars are still feeling the effects from changes in customer behavior post-pandemic. Restricting municipalities from prohibiting outdoor dining, while still allowing them to enforce all zoning and noise ordinances, reinforces the municipality's rights while allowing an establishment to generate some additional income. Income which is also subject to the 8% dining sales tax, which will benefit both the state and municipality.

Respectfully, I urge you to recommend passage of H-7064 Sub A to the full House. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David Dadekian

David S. Dadelian