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H7493 - OPPOSE

Chairwoman Shallcross Smith and Members of the Committee,

House Bill 7493 erodes the three-tier system by allowing breweries, through expanded satellite taprooms, to act as manufacturer, wholesaler, and retailer. This bypasses the wholesale tier—the backbone of fair pricing, access, and compliance—creating a fragmented market where relationships dictate distribution. Satellite taprooms become vertically integrated retail outlets, giving producers an unfair advantage over independent stores. The unintended consequence is a slow dismantling of the system, leading to consolidation, reduced competition, and fewer choices for consumers. What begins as a brewery carveout ultimately weakens the structure that ensures a fair and balanced alcohol marketplace.

I respectfully urge you to oppose H7493.