



David Dadekian
Eat Drink RI LLC
1061 Fish Hill Road
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Testimony in support of H 7664

March 25, 2026

Honorable Chairperson Shallcross Smith 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 and marketing companies in the region for all things culinary. As an advocate for our food system, a small business owner who wants to see our state's food and drink economy thrive, and as a citizen concerned about our changing climate and food insecurity, **I strongly support H 7664.**

This bill allowing holders of a Class P license to purchase alcoholic beverages from wholesalers in addition to Class A retail shops addresses a large inequity that catering businesses in Rhode Island have faced for years regarding purchasing liquor for events. This inequity has often caused some of our larger caterers to base their businesses in neighboring states to avoid having to purchase liquor at retail prices, further driving those business revenues out of Rhode Island. I believe this bill allows wholesalers to refuse or set orders are a bit restrictive, but hopefully satisfy the complaints of people opposing these changes in the past.

Thank you to Representative Casey and his co-sponsors on H 7664. Respectfully, I urge you to pass H 7664 forward to the full House for passage this session. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David S. Dadekian". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Dadekian