

## Ariana Costa

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**From:** Norman Hale <NormHale@marketbeerwinespirits.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 22, 2026 1:24 PM  
**To:** House Small Business Committee  
**Subject:** OPPOSE - H8250

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Norman Hale: Market Beer Wine Spirits: 1384 Hartford Avenue, Johnston RI 02919: H8250 - OPPOSE  
Chairwoman Shallcross Smith and Members of the Committee, House Bill 8250 undermines Rhode  
Island's three-tier system by allowing distilleries to operate in off-premises retail-like environments  
through Class P events. This blurs the line between manufacturer and retailer, giving producers an unfair  
advantage over liquor stores, bars, and restaurants. It also weakens wholesalers by bypassing traditional  
distribution channels. Once established, this precedent invites further erosion from other supplier  
groups. Ultimately, this bill shifts the balance of the market toward manufacturers, harming small  
businesses and destabilizing the structured system that ensures fair competition, accountability, and  
consumer protection. I respectfully urge you to oppose H8250.

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