

June 2, 2026

The Honorable Louis DiPalma
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Chairman DiPalma and Members of the Committee,


On behalf of our members, I write in support of S 3215, which creates a regulatory framework for the safe sale and service of low-dose hemp-THC products.

Hospitality businesses are seeing growing consumer demand for low-dose hemp beverages in on-premise settings. Restaurant and hotel guests are increasingly asking for these products by name as an alternative beverage option when dining or socializing. For guests who choose not to consume alcohol, the current choices are often limited to coffee, soda, or mocktails. Low-dose hemp beverages represent a product category that many consumers are actively seeking and expect to see offered in modern hospitality environments.

For restaurants and hotels operating on extremely thin margins, particularly in the current economic climate where consumers are more selective about when and where they dine out, the ability to offer products that customers are specifically requesting can provide meaningful value. Beverage programs are an important part of hospitality operations, and low-dose hemp beverages fit naturally within the type of controlled, service-oriented environment our industry already manages every day.

S 3215 creates a thoughtful and responsible framework for on-premise sale and service. The bill establishes a specific endorsement structure for on-premise service, requires server training consistent with Rhode Island's existing alcohol server-training rules, and prohibits the commingling of hemp beverages with alcohol in the same drink. These are appropriate guardrails that reflect the realities of hospitality operations and build upon systems our industry already understands and complies with successfully.

Hospitality establishments are uniquely equipped to handle regulated adult beverage service responsibly because service occurs in a controlled environment with trained staff, direct oversight, and established compliance procedures. Rules and training are not burdens for our industry, they are what allow establishments and employees to serve adult products safely, professionally, and responsibly.

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Rhode Island's hospitality industry supports S 3215 and the structured, training-based pathway it creates for the responsible on-premise sale and service of low-dose hemp beverages.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the committee to support S 2315.

Sincerely,

Ryan Moot
Manager of Government Affairs
RI Hospitality Association

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