



March 13, 2024

### **Testimony in Support of House Bill 7842**

Representative McEntee, Chair, Small Business Committee, and Committee Members:

I am writing in support of House Bill 7842 that would allow breweries to sell a ½ barrel keg directly to customers.

I want to start off by first thanking this committee and many of its members who have supported the growth of the craft beer industry in RI in recent years. The number of breweries in RI has grown exponentially in the past ten years, from 2 to nearly 40, largely as a result of changes to legislation that fostered this growth. Because of these changes, the RI brewing industry has been a bright spot in terms of job creation, tourism revenue, and manufacturing in RI, and we have been celebrated for this success.

As the law is currently written, RI breweries are allowed to sell up to two cases of beer per day to our customers, which is also the equivalent of one ½ barrel keg of beer. Since the law currently specifies 12 or 16 ounce containers, however, we are not allowed to sell a ½ barrel keg to customers, despite the fact that it is the same amount of beer. This bill would remove this restriction and give breweries the option to sell the same amount of beer via one keg versus 48 cans, which is a common request we get from our customers.

Thank you very much for your consideration in this matter. If I can be of any assistance or answer any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.

Matt Richardson  
Owner/Brewer  
Tilted Barn Brewery  
Farm to Pint  
Exeter, RI  
matt@tiltedbarnbrewery.com  
(401) 829-6088