



January 22, 2024

Senator Matthea Daughtry
Representative Melanie F. Sachs
Senator Craig Hickman
Senator Eloise A. Vitelli
Senator Joseph Rafferty
Representative Laura D. Supica

And Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans & Legal Affairs

My name is Eleanor Vadenais, President / CEO of the Wells Chamber of Commerce. The mission of the Wells Chamber is to “promote the growth and general prosperity of the businesses within the Town of Wells and vicinity”. We are a membership-based business organization with the infrastructure to promote and market Wells as a popular travel destination as well as a great place to live and work.

I am pleased to submit this testimony on behalf of the Wells Chamber of Commerce in support of LD 2088, An Act to Change the Number of Agency Liquor Stores Allowed in Certain Municipalities.

Wells is one of the towns that would be impacted by this legislation as the population in the last census was between 10,000 and 15,000 year-round residents. As you are aware, Wells, like many towns in the Maine Beaches region, has a substantial increase in population during the warmer months of the year ... some estimates bring the seasonal population to between 30,000 and 35,000 based on the numerous lodging options available in our community. We believe that between the year-round and seasonal populations, our town could support business at additional locations and that our local government would carefully consider and respond to the interests of our residents and visitors alike on this issue.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of LD 2088. We respectfully request that the Committee vote “ought to pass” on this legislation that would support the State of Maine and our local economy. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Eleanor J. Vadenais
President / CEO

WELLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
136 POST ROAD, PO BOX 356
WELLS, MAINE 04090
207.646.2451
www.wellschamber.org

Eleanor Vadenais
Wells Chamber of Commerce
LD 2088

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