

Michael Fava  
Sacred Profane  
LD 1456

Thank you Senator Hickman, Representative Supica and Members of the Committee:

My name is Michael Fava, I am a resident of South Portland and I'm here today as the Co-Founder of

Sacred Profane Brewery. I appreciate the opportunity to weigh in on the proposed changes and add my voice in support of this bill.

As a Maine craft brewer, I see that the current law allows for a virtually unlimited amount

of retail licenses and that the absence of meaningful production requirements devalue the investment I've made in my brewery and employees. We were the third brewery to open in Biddeford and within 3 short years the number shot up 7. More than half of these businesses are auxiliary taprooms that do not produce beer onsite yet benefit from the protections and perks of being a Maine Craft Brewer while at the same time stealing local marketshare away from neighboring legitimate breweries. We're starting to see a

proliferation of businesses representing themselves as craft brewers but who technically

only brew a tiny amount of beer (if any) just to satisfy the technical requirements of their

manufacturing license. By adapting the statute to ensure equal access-to-market for all beverage manufacturers, we will better ensure a fair and supportive playing field long term for Maine based job creation, small business manufacturing, and the continued health of locally made craft beverages.

Thank you for your time and consideration today, and I ask for you to support this important legislation. I'm happy to answer questions or speak further on the subject as needed.