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Testimony of

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Before the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

LD 1378 – “An Act Regarding Liquor Service by Catering Services for Special Events at Licensed Wineries, Small Wineries, Breweries, Small Breweries, Distilleries and Small Distilleries”

April 10, 2023

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs, my name is Gregg Mineo and I am the Director of the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations. I am providing the following testimony neither for nor against LD 1378.

This legislation would allow a qualified caterer to provide liquor at functions or events held on the licensed premises of the manufacturer. This provision would widen the availability of alcohol products at a winery, brewery or distillery during a catered event on its premises, beyond the manufacturer's products as currently allowed. For example, a brewery would be allowed to have a caterer provide spirits and/or wines for the event, as well as providing the brewery's manufactured products.

Currently under law a licensed qualified caterer may only provide alcohol products at an event at a location that does not have a liquor license and a manufacturer is limited to only serving products that are manufactured by the brewery, winery or distillery. There is no limit set as to how many events a manufacturer could hold on its premises. Without stated guardrails limiting the frequency of these catered events on the premise of a manufacturer, the result may be a business practice that resembles a chapter 43 or associated restaurant licensed area, which is already provided within 1355-A. While not opposed to LD 1378, the Bureau would suggest inserting a limit to the number of events at which a qualified caterer is allowed to provide alcohol not manufactured by the premises.

Thank you for allowing me to testify before the Committee today. I am happy to answer any questions, and of course will be available for the work session.