



Jeffrey Timberlake  
Senator, District 17

**THE MAINE SENATE**  
131st Legislature

3 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

**Testimony of Senator Jeffrey Timberlake**

**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"**

**Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs**

**April 10, 2023**

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica and Distinguished Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs. I am Jeff Timberlake and I represent Senate District 17, which includes the towns of Greene, Leeds, Lisbon, Livermore, Livermore Falls, Sabattus, Turner and Wales in Androscoggin County and Fayette and Litchfield in Kennebec County. I am here to present 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."

Many wineries, breweries and distilleries in Maine as part of their business model rent out there facilities for weddings, anniversary parties, bridal showers and other functions. Currently under state law the only alcohol that can be served at these functions is the alcoholic beverage that is made at the brewery or distillery. So for example, my family owns a tasting room that sells different hard ciders and wines, we have space on that property that we rent out for functions and the only alcoholic beverages that can be served are our ciders. Other buildings on that property that are not attached to the tasting room we can serve other alcoholic beverages at. This sometimes limits who will rent our property because they do not like the idea that other types of alcohol cannot be served in the tasting room.

This legislation would allow a qualified catering service to provide liquor at functions or events held at wineries, small wineries, breweries, small breweries, distilleries or small distilleries as long as the catering service files an application at least 24 hours in advance of the function or event on a form provided by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations.

I encourage this committee to support this legislation. I am happy to answer any questions. Thank you.