

Good Morning ,Sen. Hickman and Rep. Supica, and members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee, My name is Linda Caprara. I represent the Maine State Chamber of Commerce. We would like to testify in support of L.D. 2014, An Act Regarding Spirits Price Regulation."

Businesses need predictability and a spirits markup set in statute would provide that. A uniform, flat markup is simple, provides equity across products, and is a much fairer system that removes subjectivity in pricing decisions. This would be a much more streamlined and consistent regulatory environment. Other control states such as New Hampshire, Vermont, and Michigan utilize their own versions of flat markups.

All spirits pricing decisions have been made by the Bureau without any input or oversight from the legislature. We feel this committee and the Legislature as a whole should be setting the policies behind this complicated issue.

Again, we urge you to support L.D. 2014. I would be happy to answer any questions.