

January 26, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I want to voice my opinion as a small business owner in Lincolnville, ME against LD1693. This bill would be a complete mistake, in my opinion. Being a small business owner in Maine is hard enough by being one of the most taxed states in the country, and this bill will just make it even worse. The state excise tax doubling will have adverse affects to the smokers than frequent my store. Most of these customers come from a lower economic bracket than others, and I feel it would be targeting them specifically. The other thing this would do is make all stores much less competitive with out of state purchases in New Hampshire. The second piece of this legislation with the complete flavor ban would be a huge loss of revenue for my store. This legislation would be targeting adult consumers from purchasing specific products with flavors from only one category. My customers would still be able to buy flavored seltzer and liquor which makes no sense to me. We take verifying these consumers over 21 years of age very seriously. I hope you'll take my concerns into consideration and vote to not pass this bill forward.

Sincerely,

Gretchen Drake
Drake's Corner Store
Lincolnville, ME

Gretchen Drake
Lincolntown
LD 1693

January 26, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I want to voice my opinion as a small business owner in Lincolntown, ME against LD1693. This bill would be a complete mistake, in my opinion. Being a small business owner in Maine is hard enough by being one of the most taxed states in the country, and this bill will just make it even worse. The state excise tax doubling will have adverse affects to the smokers that frequent my store. Most of these customers come from a lower economic bracket than others, and I feel it would be targeting them specifically. The other thing this would do is make Maine based stores and much less competitive with out of state purchases in New Hampshire. The second piece of this legislation with the complete flavor ban would be a huge loss of revenue for my store. This legislation would be targeting adult consumers from purchasing specific products with flavors from only one category. My customers would still be able to buy flavored seltzer and liquor which makes no sense to me. We take verifying these consumers over 21 years of age very seriously. I hope you'll take my concerns into consideration and vote to not pass this bill forward.

Sincerely,

Gretchen Drake
Drake's Corner Store
Lincolntown, ME