

Kimberly Schofield
Uncorked wine&cheese

To the Distinguished Committee Members: As the sole owner/operator of an established micro-business, Uncorked wine&cheese, located in Augusta, I strongly disagree with LD 1093, An Act To Expand the Shipping Options for Shipping Wine Directly to Customers. Clearly, the damage caused to businesses such as mine by allowing the passage of LD 1093 is beyond words. Maine claims to support small businesses. Maine says that it wants to encourage more small business and yet, somehow, this bill is introduced which will only further damage and demoralize small businesses such as mine. Not only does LD 1093 damage existing businesses but will, for obvious reasons, discourage any potential new business that might integrate the sale of wine into their business plan. I have not only lived in Maine and have already witnessed, firsthand, the damage to small wine and/or wine, beer boutique shops from companies such as Wine.com, etc.. to ship directly. I am absolutely certain that should LD 1093 pass that the future of Uncorked wine&cheese is questionable at best. Isn't it enough that I have to struggle with the grocery outlets for business? Trying to compete against internet companies with vast resources, unlimited inventory and the ability to underprice any small wine store in the State of Maine sends a highly impactful message to all of us in the Wine Industry. That message that we offer no value to Maine as a State, the Residents or Visitors. Quite simply, the passage of LD 1093 is unconscionable.