

Jacques deVillier  
Portland

Good morning and thank you for allowing me to testify and provide my written and oral opposition to LD 1093 and LD 1358.

Senator Lucini, Representative Caiazzo and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs.

My name is Jacques deVillier, from Portland and I am owner of both Old Port Wine and Old Port Spirits both on Commercial Street in Portland. I have been in business for 15 years and I employ between my two businesses 14 employees.

These two bills are bad policy for both The State of Maine and for business. Currently, on Commercial Street alone, there are presently nine retailers selling wine, additionally we are an agent for the State for liquor sales.

As I am sure you are aware this is an extremely difficult for businesses throughout the State. Businesses are facing a variety of difficulties to include numerous retailers who advertise everyday on the internet selling both wine and spirits. Our neighbor to the south advertises in our own local papers every week selling both spirits and wine.

None of these retailers pay sales tax or provides jobs to Mainers. Please be assured there is both wine and spirits currently being shipped into Maine in violation of Maine law. These businesses are not responsible for the myriad of licenses we are required to provide prior to doing businesses and do not provide the level of scrutiny we are subjected to to ensure underage minors have access to alcohol.

These two bills are unnecessary and will be detrimental to our ability to do business and will cost jobs for Mainers.