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LD 2160

I am a travel/food and drink writer living in Portland, Maine. My job is to encourage people to come to Maine and experience our food and drinks scene. Small local distilleries are a big part of what drives folks to our beverage culture, and they're struggling. Beverage producers can strongly increase tourism to rural places—we need to help these small local distillers and producers thrive. Maine has one of the most difficult and expensive regulatory environments, causing many to eschew the craft, or sadly to close their businesses or move out of state. Distilleries in Maine need our support. Other states that have more supportive distillery legislation that fosters growth and economic wellbeing—it's time we pick up the pace to support our local distillers. We need to reduce regulatory and financial burdens on Maine distillers by passing LD 2160.