

## Rep. Bill Post – Testimony on HB 2736

In 2007 the Oregon Legislature passed the Indoor Clean Air Act. Then in 2011 the Legislature passed HB 3329 which allowed for certain “smoke shops” to be “grandfathered” into allowing smoking in the shop if they met criteria laid out in that bill. As part of the negotiating of those definitions that substantially changed the cigar shop industry with some unfortunate and I believe, unintended consequences – one of those being that employees were now no longer able to eat their lunch at work, or have a bottle of water on premises.

As you may remember, in 2015, the only bill I had pass was HB 2629, which passed almost unanimously (Rep Weidner needed a random No vote that day...) which struck the unintended language, and allowed food and nonalcoholic beverages to be consumed on premises of certified cigar shops.

I am here before you today because there in another change I believe would be incredibly helpful to an industry in Oregon that we all care about very much – the growing wine and craft brewing industry. This bill before you today, HB 2736 would bring back the success of earlier days, pairing complimentary industries and helping them help each other prosper.

Certified Cigar shops have a certain kind of clientele – these patrons tend to be the kind who would be willing to pay for higher-end cigars. This bill would allow our own Oregon Wineries to offer their wares in a tasting to appreciative audiences who would then purchase bottles of those wines at these events.

This bill does NOT allow certified cigar shops to sell alcohol, they do NOT want to sell drinks, provide drinks or become alcohol sales points– it simply allows them to offer their venue to promote our Oregon beverage talents.

It would also add the benefit of allowing the clientele of a CERTIFIED cigar shop to “BYOB” bring your own beverage as many cigar users like to enjoy a select alcoholic beverage with their cigar.

The minor change that I am looking to achieve is to take the portion of ORS 433.847 from:

(D) Does not sell or offer food or beverages and does not sell, offer or allow on-premises consumption of alcoholic beverages;

To read: Does not sell or offer food or beverages and does not sell or offer alcoholic beverages;

I believe we can add a real boon to the wine, craft beer and craft distillery industry as well as tourism as well as building the cigar shop industry. I urge you to move HB 2736 to the Floor for a vote and thank you!