

March 24, 2017

Dan Engler
Owner and Brewmaster
Occidental Brewing Co.
President, Oregon Brewers Guild

Testimony in support of HB2736

To the Honorable Members of the Committee:

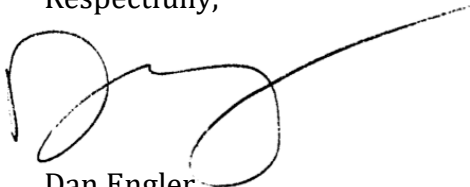
The Oregon Brewers Guild (OBG) supports HB 2736. HB 2736 modifies the language of ORS 433.847 thus allowing patrons and third parties to bring their own alcoholic beverages into certified smoke shops.

As cigar aficionados are also frequently consumers of premium beverages, pairings of cigars and craft beer, as well as wine and spirits are a common activity. Unfortunately, the opportunity to hold such events has decreased dramatically with the advent of indoor smoking bans. The change that would be effected by HB 2736 would allow patrons to BYOB to certified smoke shops for such pairings and allow brewers and other beverage manufacturers to offer tastings.

Tastings are commonly offered at other non-licensed premises where one might find a craft-beverage demographic: galleries, real-estate openings, even corporate offices. This change would benefit Oregon's craft beer industry by creating another venue to introduce potential customers to Oregon brewers' products and offer tourists—many of coming from states that also have smoking restrictions—another unique way to try Oregon's bounty of craft beverages.

OBG urges the passage of HB 2736 to give smoke shop patrons the opportunity to enjoy Oregon's craft beverages with their hobby.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Dan Engler', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Dan Engler
President, Oregon Brewers Guild