



Katie Jacoy
Western Counsel
Wine Institute

Testimony before the Joint Interim Committee on the Third Special Session of 2020
Submitted by: Katie Jacoy, Western Counsel, Wine Institute
LC 10 – Cocktails to-go
December 17, 2020

Wine Institute, representing 1,000 California wineries of all sizes, empathizes with the distress facing our Oregon partners in the restaurant and bar industry as COVID-19 restrictions and shutdowns continue. We applaud Oregon Legislators for their willingness to step in and help the restaurants and bars by allowing full on-premises sales licensees to sell mixed spirits-based drinks in safely sealed containers for off-premises consumption. **We support LC 10 and hope that it provides a desperately needed lifeline to Oregon restaurants and bars.**

There is, however, a lack of parity in this proposal. We believe this privilege should apply equally to wine and spirits. Full on-premises sales licensees should also be permitted to sell wine by the glass and wine mixed drinks, like mimosas and sangria, in safely sealed containers. Wineries have been hard hit by the loss of sales to on-premises licensees. Though direct-to-consumer shipment has increased during the pandemic, it has not come close to compensating for the loss of wine sales by restaurants and bars. In addition, wineries have been battered by a perfect storm - COVID-19 related tasting room restrictions and closures, unprecedented wildfires and tariffs. Expansion of this privilege to include wine equally will benefit the restaurants, bars and wineries while providing greater consumer choice.

Typically, in states that permit cocktails-to-go, wine is included in the privilege. In Ohio, Iowa, DC and Oklahoma, the cocktails-to-go privilege has been made permanent and wine by the glass is included. Many states have granted this privilege, including wine by the glass, on a temporary basis, including California, New York, Louisiana, Nebraska, Nevada and Texas to name a few. We hope the Legislature will rectify this issue during the full 2021 Legislative Session.

Thank you for considering Wine Institute's testimony. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 360-790-5729 or kjacoy@wineinstitute.org.