



SB 5519 OLCC Budget

Testimony for Ways and Means – 3.18.2019

Given the fact that we've provided Oregon wineries a tax break since the industry began in Oregon, one can understand why distillers believe they should get a tax break too. It's easy for distillers to ignore the lack of a tax break for beer, and to seek something, anything, given our enduring generosity to Oregon wineries.

But the solution isn't a new tax break. Instead, legislators could end the Small Winery Tax Exemption which means that 90% of Oregon wineries, and 2% of imported wines pay no liquor tax.

Given the job of Ways and Means to fund new programs and old, it seems to those of us at Tax Fairness Oregon that the best way to address fairness in the liquor arena is to end the Small Winery Tax Exemption and capture the \$8.4 million per biennium it is costing us. This money would be better deployed meeting the needs of our citizens.

We read the bills and follow the money