

**From:** [Stone Barn Brandyworks](#)  
**To:** [Sen Taylor](#)  
**Cc:** [LRO](#)  
**Subject:** Bill #1565  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 4, 2020 12:11:12 PM

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Dear Senator Taylor,

We are writing to thank you again for your support for Bill #1565 which addresses distillery tasting room compensation, and to add testimony on behalf of this measure.

My husband and I founded Stone Barn Brandyworks 10 years ago and we pride ourselves on making all our spirits from scratch and sourcing our ingredients locally.

Over the past 10 years, we have seen first-hand the interest we have inspired and the pleasure we have given to thousands of visitors to our tasting room by talking about our spirits, showing our production area, and sampling local distilled spirits right where they are made!

We want to keep our tasting room open, continue to connect with our customers first hand, employ staff to run the tasting room, and be able to innovate and expand our range of products and showcase the amazing ingredients our state has to offer!

It is only by dint of having our production area adjacent to our tasting room that we have been able to keep the tasting room open on weekends. The current tax structure makes it impossible for us and other tasting rooms to be viable, and after 10 years our tasting room, it is sad to say, is still not profitable. We are faced with shortening our hours or closing our tasting room altogether unless we are able to retain more of our tasting room earnings.

The support Bill #1565 provides would also benefit the state in increased revenue from tasting room sales, and help Oregon shine with the treasures we offer both tourists and locals, by giving distilleries the green light to thrive.

Thank you for your work and leadership,

Erika and Sebastian Degens  
Owners

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