



January 27, 2021

Chair Sanchez, Vice Chairs Moore-Green and Nosse, and Members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health,

We are writing in support of HB 2313, directing the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission (ADPC) to inventory statewide resources available to address substance use disorders. Testimony this session from the Oregon Health Authority, the ADPC, and a review of the Secretary of State's audit of OHA show that Oregon's behavioral health system is fragmented and does not closely track spending on various behavioral health programs and whether they are producing the desired outcomes. We need data in order identify gaps and find efficiencies in our behavioral health delivery systems. For those reasons, we fully support the ADPC's work here.

Without question, addressing substance abuse is important. As described by Steve Allen at OHA, "We need to know that what we're buying adds value to the system, that people's lives and healthcare is improving through the purchases we make, but that requires additional data." Oregon uses less than 5% of revenue collected from the beer, wine, cider and spirits sectors for substance abuse programs. In addition, the state has programs funded by marijuana, lottery, tobacco, and other funds at the state and local level. It is unclear whether those programs are coordinated or even effective for treating addiction.

The Oregon Beer & Wine Distributors Association (OBWDA) represents Oregon's local, independent beer and wine distributors. OBWDA members employ thousands of Oregonians, contribute to multiple Oregon charitable organizations, and live and work in our communities. As part of our charge, OBWDA provides leadership in promoting the local beer and wine industry in Oregon by protecting the three-tier system of alcohol distribution and trade practice laws, enforced by the OLCC.

Alcohol requires special laws to ensure public health and safety is protected. The multitude of laws that the OLCC enforces are critical to ensuring the safe distribution and sale of alcohol. Further, Oregon's beer distributors care deeply about ensuring access to substance use disorder recovery and treatment for Oregonians in need. We look forward to working with you on ensuring we have the right systems in place for serving Oregonians suffering from substance use disorder and support HB 2313 as the right next step in this process.

Thank you,

*-Danelle Romain & Mike Freese*

Executive Director & Legal Counsel, Oregon Beer & Wine Distributors Association