

Please approve HB 5018. Oregon enjoys growing tax revenue generated by liquor agents (almost 9M in December, 2020 alone) and has not shared this with the agents. Rather, we have been stuck with increasing costs and stagnant compensation. HB 5018 will be a fix to the ongoing problem of outdated liquor agent compensation. This bill updates compensation to something that will see years of solid ground. This is a plan where agents will finally see some financial security.

We did get a small increase last session. Unfortunately the dollars I saw for the year did not come close to covering the rising store costs I've absorbed. This new forward thinking compensation plan takes the data used by the State in minimum wage, and rent costs then applies them in a realistic fashion. I feel HB 5018 aligns more with today's way of doing business. The passing of this bill will help liquor agents to continue our efforts of being the drivers of Oregon's unique distilled spirits program.

Thank you for your time and I hope you also see the value of the investment in HB 5018.