

Submitter: Abigail Neilan

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety
Response

Measure, Appointment or
Topic: HB3197

I am writing in opposition to HB 3197, which would create Oregon's first ever state grocery and restaurant sales tax. This massive sales tax harms Oregon businesses, workers in the food and beverage industry, and everyone who enjoys the world-class wine, beer, cider and spirits produced in our great state.

The alcoholic beverage industry is an essential part of Oregon's economy and identity, employing hundreds of thousands of Oregonians and contributing \$17 billion in economic activity. Our local businesses are already facing major challenges with inflation, supply chain issues, employee shortages, natural disasters, a pandemic, record closures and fewer people drinking. Oregon lawmakers should be working on policies that help this homegrown industry thrive, rather than trying to raise prices through regressive sales taxes when we're already experiencing record highs.