



May 5, 2021

The Honorable Senator Carla Nelson, Chair
3235 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Representative Paul Marquart, Chair
597 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Nelson and Chair Marquart:

The Minnesota Craft Brewers Guild, in coordination with more than 150 breweries and brewpubs in the state of Minnesota, is asking for your support as you review the Omnibus Tax Bill.

Though the industry would benefit significantly from the passage of the Drink Local Bill, the Omnibus Tax Bill contains a provision that would provide some relief to the industry as well. The provision to provide a reimbursement for dumped products due to the pandemic would support breweries, bars, restaurants, and distributors that could no longer sell beer due to closures.

Breweries are required to report to the TTB when they dump products and keep detailed reports on unsellable products. Similarly, on-premise establishments and distributors would also keep records of kegs returned and dumped due to closures. This provision would ensure that just some of the dollars lost to the closures would be returned to breweries.

Our breweries, bars, and restaurants are the cornerstones of their communities and have worked hard to keep their patrons and towns safe. Though there is another proposal that would benefit all craft beverage producers, bars, and restaurants in the state, this is helpful step the legislature could take to support these hurting local small businesses.

Please ensure this provision remains in the bill as you move it forward.

Sincerely,

Lauren Bennett McGinty
Executive Director
Minnesota Craft Brewers Guild