



March 3, 2026

Re: Support for HF3525 (Robbins) - Federal individual income tax deduction for qualified tip income adopted.

Dear Chairs and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Minnesota Licensed Beverage Association (MLBA) and our more than 2,500 member establishments across the state, we write in support of HF3525, which would allow Minnesota's tipped workers to keep more of the money they earn. We appreciate the legislature's attention to this issue and are grateful for the opportunity to share our perspective.

We believe the principle behind this bill is one that resonates broadly: workers who earn their income through tips deserve a tax code that recognizes and respects their efforts. Servers, bartenders, and other hospitality workers throughout Minnesota depend on tips as a central part of their livelihood. HF3525 would offer these individuals meaningful relief and acknowledge the value of the work they do every day.

For the small business owners who make up our membership, the neighborhood bars, family restaurants, and Main Street establishments found in every corner of this state, this bill also represents an opportunity to better support the people they employ. Staffing continues to be among the most pressing challenges in our industry, and measures that make hospitality careers more rewarding benefit not only individual workers but the communities these businesses serve.

We respectfully encourage the House Taxes committee to support of HF3525. It is a thoughtful step toward recognizing the contributions of Minnesota's hospitality workforce, and we believe it reflects values that members on both sides of the aisle share.

Thank you sincerely for your time and consideration. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this bill further and how it would benefit workers and businesses in your districts.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tony Chesak", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tony Chesak
Executive Director
Minnesota Licensed Beverage Association