

30 April 2020

The Honorable Laurie Halverson Minnesota House of Representatives 303 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: HF 2337

Dear Representative Halverson:

The Minnesota Lakes Maritime Society, DBA Legacy of the Lakes Museum (LOLM), is a small nonprofit organization with IRS 501 (c) 3 tax exempt status located in Alexandria, Minnesota. Our mission is to celebrate the shared memories and experiences of Minnesota lake life and to preserve that legacy for future generations. Our campus includes a museum with exhibits that feature antique and classic wooden and fiberglass boats, the Legacy Gardens that are free to the public, and a new BoatHouse Education and Event Center. The museum is open from mid-May to the end of October.

During the five months the museum is open, we host a handful of public events at which we would like to sell wine and beer. "Music in the Gardens" is a good example. This series of concerts is held every other Friday evening over a six to eight week period. We would like to be able to enhance the guest experience by selling wine and beer. Revenue from these sales would be used to defray event and general operating expenses for the museum and Legacy Gardens. As the temporary liquor license law now reads, we are not able to do this.

We are requesting your assistance with legislative action that would allow us to hold up to 12 one-day temporary liquor licenses without the requirement of a 30-day waiting period between public events where the license is used. We are seeking this flexibility to take full-advantage of our short season to generate much needed revenue through the sale of wine and beer at a limited number of events.

LOLM is a quality, not-for-profit operation that adds tremendous value to the Alexandria community and contributes to its status as a tourism destination city. We appreciate the support we receive from the community and the many volunteers who give of their time and talent to make the museum a success. Thank you for consideration of this important request.

Sincerely yours,

Carol Swenson
Executive Director

cc: Representative Mary Franson

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