



March 25, 2022

Chair Stephenson and Members of the House Commerce Finance and Policy Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the omnibus liquor bill, HF 2767, as amended.

Minnesota is the very last state when it comes to modernizing 3.2 beer liquor laws, and unfortunately the omnibus liquor bill fails to catch our laws up with consumer demand and today's marketplace.

While the bill recognizes consumers are trending away from 3.2 beer products by allowing municipalities to issue strong beer and wine licenses to town ball baseball team owners, the bill lacks options for consumers that today are limited to 3.2 beer options in some stores.

It's long past time to allow Minnesotans the convenience of picking up a six-pack of full-strength beer or bottle of wine at grocery or convenience stores. In a poll conducted in February, Minnesotans across the state and across all ages overwhelmingly favored modernizing Minnesota's liquor laws to allow more options where they shop.

It is a simple truth that Minnesota is behind the rest of the nation and stuck with prohibition-era 3.2 laws. As producers make fewer 3.2 products, now is the time to take modernization steps that even states like Utah have taken, and allow Minnesotans the convenience to buy full-strength beer and wine and grocery and convenience stores.

Please modernize our laws to allow more convenience for busy families, more choice where we shop, and more opportunity for our small businesses.

Sincerely,

Red, White & Brew MN

*Red, White & Brew MN is a movement of consumers and retailers to modernize MN liquor laws and is supported by the Minnesota Retailers Association, Minnesota Grocers Association, Minnesota Service Station and Convenience Store Association, Minnesota Petroleum Marketers Association and Minnesota Chamber of Commerce.*