

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

December 10, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy,

We are writing today to ask you to pass the Craft Beverage Modernization and Tax Reform Act (H.R. 1175/S.362) and make the existing federal excise tax rates for beverage alcohol producers permanent or at a minimum provisions to ensure the relief doesn't expire.

Every state in our nation is proudly home to craft breweries, distilleries, wineries, cideries, and meaderies who without Congressional action, face a significant increase in their federal excise taxes in less than three months come January 1, 2021.

In addition to creating jobs in every state and Congressional district, beverage alcohol producers are critical partners to our farmers and agriculture producers, the tourism industry, the manufacturing sector, and the hospitality industry, including restaurants, bars, and other on-premise establishments. Together, these producers support over 5.4 million jobs across the country and contribute immensely to the vibrancy of our economy and communities.

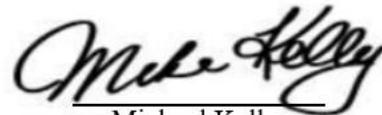
However, with the economic duress brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, producers' businesses have been devastated and now face a second looming crisis, an increase in their federal excise taxes. Producers have already seen dramatic declines in revenue because of the closures of tasting rooms and restaurants, bars, and other on-premise establishments and cancelations of major sporting events and concerts. These losses ripple throughout the supply chain, affecting farmers, agriculture producers, manufacturers, truck drivers, warehouse workers, and countless others.

It is imperative that the Craft Beverage Modernization and Tax Reform Act be included in the next appropriate legislative package and acted upon before the end of the year. Distilleries, breweries, wineries, cideries, and meaderies should not bear the weight of an ill-timed tax increase. As businesses struggle to retain workers and stay open, allowing the current rates to lapse would force many businesses across the country to lay off workers or close their doors permanently. With the support of 76 Senators and 351 Representatives, this bill is a bipartisan priority and an important economic lifeline to thousands of businesses across the country for whom this tax increase would be the final straw.

Sincerely,



Ron Kind  
Member of Congress



Michael Kelly  
Member of Congress



Peter DeFazio  
Member of Congress

JAMES P. MCGOVERN  
Member of Congress

DEBBIE DINGELL  
Member of Congress

TOM SUOZZI  
Member of Congress

AL LAWSON  
Member of Congress

SUZANNE BONAMICI  
Member of Congress

JIMMY PANETTA  
Member of Congress

ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON  
Member of Congress

CHARLIE CRIST  
Member of Congress

CHELLIE PINGREE  
Member of Congress

JUAN VARGAS  
Member of Congress

ED CASE  
Member of Congress

GWEN MOORE  
Member of Congress

ELISSA SLOTKIN  
Member of Congress

VICENTE GONZALEZ  
Member of Congress

PETER WELCH  
Member of Congress

DANIEL T. KILDEE  
Member of Congress

KATHLEEN M. RICE  
Member of Congress

DEREK KILMER  
Member of Congress

PATRICK MCHENRY  
Member of Congress

BRIAN FITZPATRICK  
Member of Congress

JAMES COMER  
Member of Congress

SCOTT DESJARLAIS  
Member of Congress

JOHN H. RUTHERFORD  
Member of Congress

DOUG LAMBORN  
Member of Congress

BRETT GUTHRIE  
Member of Congress

JASON SMITH  
Member of Congress

JACKIE WALORKSI  
Member of Congress

ROGER WILLIAMS  
Member of Congress

BILL JOHNSON  
Member of Congress

TRENT KELLY  
Member of Congress

FRED KELLER  
Member of Congress

MICHAEL GUEST  
Member of Congress

GREG GIANFORTE  
Member of Congress

DONALD J. BACON  
Member of Congress

WILL HURD  
Member of Congress

JOHN KATKO  
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

DEAN PHILLIPS  
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

BRENDAN F. BOYLE  
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

RICK LARSEN  
Member of Congress

JULIA BROWNLEY  
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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ANTONIO DELGADO  
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Member of Congress

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CHIP ROY  
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ANN WAGNER  
Member of Congress

DAN NEWHOUSE  
Member of Congress

JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER  
Member of Congress

CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS  
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

LEE ZELDIN  
Member of Congress

TIM BURCHETT  
Member of Congress

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ANDY BIGGS  
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

DWIGHT EVANS  
Member of Congress

JOSH GOTTHEIMER  
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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DEB HAALAND  
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BRIAN HIGGINS  
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EARL BLUMENAUER  
Member of Congress

HAL ROGERS  
Member of Congress

SCOTT PERRY  
Member of Congress

BILL POSEY  
Member of Congress

RANDY WEBER  
Member of Congress

DARIN LAHOOD  
Member of Congress

ANDY BARR  
Member of Congress