

September 21, 2022

Member of Congress:

We are writing in opposition to H.R. 3287/S.1663, *the United States Postal Service Shipping Equity Act*, legislation that undermines the well-established system of alcohol regulation.

In addition to the organizations represented on this letter, the legislation to allow the U.S. Postal Service to ship alcohol, introduced by Rep. Jackie Speier and Sen. Jeff Merkley, is opposed by the [American Beverage Licensees](#), the [American Distilled Spirits Alliance](#), the [National Beer Wholesalers Association](#), the [Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of America](#), and public health organizations, including the [Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America \(CADCA\)](#) and the [U.S. Alcohol Policy Alliance](#). The [Consumer Federation of America \(CFA\)](#) and the [International Brotherhood of Teamsters](#) are also opposed.

**The current alcohol regulatory structure that has been in place for decades helps to protect U.S. consumers as well as local marketplaces.** The current regulatory system comprised of licensed suppliers, distributors and retailers serves the U.S. marketplace and consumers. H.R. 3287 and S. 1663 overlook long-established industry practices of alcohol delivery and a system of accountability that ensures trustworthy products in the marketplace.

**Enforcement of state alcohol laws and regulations should not be compromised by allowing a federal entity with immunity, like the USPS, to ship alcohol through the mail.** The legislation fails to sufficiently recognize states' constitutional authority to enforce their beverage alcohol laws and would compromise states' ability to regulate the alcohol market within their borders and limit states' ability to enforce their laws. For example, many state laws require a signature by a legal adult before delivery of a package containing alcohol. To comply with age verification laws, the USPS would need a reliable system in place to follow state law; however, should proper age verification requirements not be followed by the postal employee, state authorities' recourse to resolve the issue is again limited.

**Delivery of a quality product to retail accounts is a priority for beer and wine distributors and their supplier partners.** Shipping beer and wine via the USPS exposes the product to postal vehicles or regional postal facilities that are not climate controlled, compromising the integrity of the product. Liquor is a

flammable product and when not properly handled could pose a safety threat to USPS employees.

**The legislation fails to adequately address alcohol excise tax collection and reporting and could adversely impact state and local budgets.** The alcohol industry collectively contributes nearly \$30 billion in annual tax revenue to state and local governments from sales and excise taxes on beverage alcohol. Alcohol regulations at the state level allow for the collection of state and local sales and excise taxes, H.R. 3287 and S. 1663 do not acknowledge this important function that is addressed by the current regulatory framework.

**The 21st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution provides states with the primary authority to regulate the manufacture, sale and distribution of alcohol within their borders.** Current alcohol regulation is supported by more than 85 years of existing state authority and regulatory oversight and Congress should avoid upsetting the balance of state and federal policies and regulations.

We ask that you **oppose** H.R. 3287/S. 1663 and **support** existing policies that serve to protect the consumer and the public.

Sincerely,

Alabama Beverage Licensees Association  
Alabama Wholesale Beer Association  
Beer and Wine Distributors of Arizona  
Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of Arizona  
United Beverage Retailers of Arkansas  
Wholesale Beer Distributors of Arkansas  
California Beer and Beverage Distributors  
California Family Beer Distributors  
Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of California, Inc.  
Colorado Beer Distributors Association  
Colorado Licensed Beverage Association  
Coloradoans for Safety  
Wine & Spirit Wholesalers of Colorado  
Connecticut Beer Wholesalers Association  
Connecticut Package Stores Association  
Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of Connecticut  
Delaware Alcohol Beverage Wholesalers Association

Delaware Small Beverage License Council  
District of Columbia Association of Beverage Alcohol Wholesalers  
Beer Industry of Florida  
Florida Beer Wholesalers Association  
Florida Independent Spirits Association  
Wine and Spirits Distributors of Florida  
Georgia Alcohol Dealers Association  
Georgia Beer Wholesalers Association  
Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of Georgia  
Hawaii Liquor Wholesalers Association  
Idaho Beer & Wine Distributors Association  
Associated Beer Distributors of Illinois  
Illinois Licensed Beverage Association  
Wine and Spirits Distributors of Illinois  
Indiana Association of Beverage Retailers  
Indiana Beverage Alliance  
Wine & Spirits Distributors of Indiana  
Iowa Wholesale Beer Distributors  
Kansas Association of Beverage Retailers  
Kansas Beer Wholesalers Association  
Kansas Wine and Spirits Wholesalers Association, Inc.  
Kentucky Association of Beverage Retailers  
Kentucky Beer Wholesalers Association  
Kentucky Malt Beverage Council  
Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of Kentucky  
Beer Industry League of Louisiana  
Louisiana Association of Beverage Alcohol Retailers  
Maine Beer & Wine Wholesalers Association  
Maine Beer and Wine Distributors  
Licensed Beverage Distributors of Maryland. Inc,  
Maryland Beer Wholesalers Association  
Maryland State Licensed Beverage Association  
Beer Distributors of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Package Stores Association  
Wine & Spirit Wholesalers of Massachusetts, Inc.  
Michigan Beer & Wine Wholesalers Association  
Minnesota Beer Wholesalers Association  
Minnesota Wine & Spirits Wholesalers Association  
Mississippi Beer Distributors Association  
Missouri Beer Wholesalers Association

Montana Beer and Wine Distributors Association  
Montana Tavern Association  
Associated Beverage Distributors of Nebraska  
Nevada Beer Wholesalers Association  
New Hampshire Beer and Beverage Distributors Association  
Beer Wholesalers Association of New Jersey  
New Jersey Wine & Spirits Wholesalers Association  
New Mexico Beverage Wholesalers  
New York State Beer Wholesalers Association  
Retailers Alliance of New York  
North Carolina Beer & Wine Wholesalers Association  
North Dakota Beer Distributors Association  
Wholesale Beer and Wine Association of Ohio  
Beer Distributors of Oklahoma  
Retail Liquor Association of Oklahoma  
Oregon Beer & Wine Distributors Association  
Malt Beverage Distributors Association of Pennsylvania  
Pennsylvania Beer Alliance  
Alcohol Beverage Wholesalers Dealers of Rhode Island  
Rhode Island Liquor Operators Collaborative  
ABC Stores of South Carolina  
South Carolina Beer Wholesalers Association  
Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of South Carolina  
South Dakota Beer Distributors Association  
South Dakota Licensed Beverage Dealers and Gaming Association  
Tennessee Malt Beverage Association  
Tennessee Wine & Spirits Retailers Association  
Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of Tennessee, Inc.  
Texas Package Stores Association  
The Beer Alliance of Texas  
Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of Texas  
Wholesale Beer Distributors of Texas  
Utah Beer Wholesalers Association  
Vermont Wholesale Beverage Association  
Virginia Beer Wholesalers Association  
Virginia Wine Wholesalers Association, Inc.  
Association of Washington Spirits and Wine Distributors  
Washington Beer and Wine Distributors Association  
West Virginia Beer Wholesalers Association  
West Virginia Spirits Brokers Association

Tavern League of Wisconsin  
Wisconsin Beer Distributors Association  
Wyoming Beer Distributors Association  
Wyoming Spirits Brokers Association  
Wyoming State Liquor Association