



May 20, 2025

Dear Members of the United States Congress:

On behalf of the Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America I am writing to express our strong support for the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA). This bill makes permanent key tax reforms created in 2017 by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Most critically it improves and makes permanent the Section 199A deduction for qualified business income and updates to the estate tax.

America's wine and spirits wholesalers are multi-generational, family-owned, privately held businesses that are eligible for the Section 199A deduction. Since 2017, our businesses have invested billions across the country into their 97,800 full-time equivalent employees, 4,175 facilities, and 1,121 separate communities.

One of the unique aspects of wine and spirits wholesalers is that our businesses operate only in the United States, employing only local workers. That means that 100 percent of that reinvestment has been made here in the United States and in the local communities we serve. Making 199A permanent will allow this reinvestment to continue. The importance of Section 199A to the livelihood of family-owned businesses across the country cannot be overstated. It has created jobs and supported local communities. Without it, many businesses would be forced to make difficult decisions about their workers, facilities, and business future.

It is important to note that wine and spirits wholesalers do not only compete, being in the logistics and marketing businesses, we compete against large, publicly traded and corporate distributors and retailers for employees, trucking, warehouse space, equipment, and other services. The TCJA permanently lowered the corporate rate for many of these businesses. By increasing the 199A deduction to 23% this legislation will allow American owned wine and spirits wholesalers to compete with these often-multi-national corporations that enjoy a lower tax rate.

In addition to creating Section 199A, TCJA also made important changes to the estate tax. Specifically, it raised the exemption available to families passing their assets to the next generation. The OBBBA further expands that exemption and makes it permanent. For our wholesalers, this increased exemption is critical to the continuation of the family business, some of which are entering their fifth generation of family leadership.

We strongly urge the House to support America's family-owned businesses by quickly passing the OBBBA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Francis Creighton'.

Francis Creighton, President & CEO  
Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America