

Sherman Enterprises Inc.

d/b/a

Stowe Mercantile

Boutique

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April 5, 2016

House Committee on General Affairs, Housing and Military Affairs

S 250, section 40

Support the ability for retailers to be licensed for delivery of beer/wine/cider to addresses in Vermont

Stowe Mercantile currently sells gift baskets primarily of Vermont Specialty Foods



These are shipped and delivered throughout US & Canada

We added Vermont Craft Beers, Ciders and wines to our store 2 years ago and created gift baskets featuring these products.



We sell our gift baskets in the store, online at stowemercantile.com and over the phone.

We lose some sales because we can't ship beer & wine within Vermont.

But we lose significant sales because we can't deliver gift baskets containing beer & wine to resorts, corporate events, weddings etc.

We turn away orders throughout the year by event planners, Vermont resorts, Inns and others.

I am asking that this aspect of Vermont Liquor Control statute be modified to allow for direct delivery by a retailer to a resort, lodge, convention center or event.

Requirement of a signed invoice upon delivery by a representative over the age of 21 and kept on file would be an expected accommodation of this.

Because event planners and others can order the very same type of gift basket from out of state, containing Vermont products, for delivery anywhere in Vermont, I and other Vermont gift basket businesses are at a tremendous disadvantage. We have no way to compete for these sales.

I appreciate this opportunity to bring this issue to the committee for consideration. Feel free to contact me at any time for further discussion.

Respectfully,

Marc Sherman
Owner
Stowe Mercantile
Vice-Chair Government Relations
Vermont Retail and Grocers Association