

From: Jeremy Elliott

Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2022 8:36 PM

Subject: H.178 Unanimous Vermont Distiller Support

Chairman Stevens, Vice Chairman Troiano and Ranking Member Murphy,

The Distilled Spirits Council of Vermont (DSCV), representing all the distilled spirits manufacturers in Vermont, supports H.178.

We believe that the inclusion of this definition is important to define an emerging category of Ready To Drink (RTD) spirit based cocktails and aligns us with neighboring control liquor states notably New Hampshire and Maine. Additionally, we believe that the inclusion of this definition broadens consumer choice, has the potential to increase tax revenue for the State of Vermont, and directly benefits Vermont distilled spirits manufacturers.

Vermont distilled spirits manufacturers directly benefit because it increases the opportunity for greater points of distribution, keeps Vermont distilled spirits manufacturers current with national trends, and allows us to expand our product offerings adding employment and a stable tax base for the economy.

I look forward to testifying on behalf of all Vermont Distillers and from Smugglers' Notch Distillery.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Elliott

President Distilled Spirits Council of Vermont
President Smugglers' Notch Distillery