

Seventh Son Brewing  
1101 N 4th St  
Columbus OH 43201

To Whom It May Concern,

I am the co-owner of Seventh Son Brewing and the current President of the Ohio Craft Brewers Association and I would like the hearing committee to listen to my thoughts on the pups on the patio legislation. I am currently on vacation and regret that I cannot present this testimony in person, as it is a very important issue and directly impacts the financial well being of my business.

Throughout Ohio, because of great beer and true entrepreneurial spirit, brewpubs and breweries with taprooms have become more than just eating and drinking establishments in their towns; they have become community centers. Independent craft brewers in Ohio have created these friendly accessible community centers where by drinking locally produced and manufactured great beer people can contribute to local charities, celebrate family occasions, or just enjoy a delicious beer with friends after a long day's work. In Ohio (and in the United States as a whole) family and friends have come to include canines as much as kids.

On any given afternoon in the summer, spring, or fall there are usually 3-6 people with their dogs on our patio. These people are regular, relaxed, pleasant customers and it could be argued stay longer and spend slightly more dollars based on the fact that they have their canine companion with them. We have also enjoyed some very successful dog focused events at our brewery such as capital area humane society adoption fairs. If the dogs, or the people, are not friendly, we can ask them leave (although this has literally never happened). If a customer has an issue/fear of dogs the dog owners have always been very understanding and accommodating.

\*Put simply we do not ever have issues with having dogs on our patio and not having them there would hurt our business. Additionally I see no health code concerns with well behaved dogs (most owners don't allow them at the table and paws preclude food prep). I also don't really understand why this common sense legislation allowing the option of dogs on patios, as many major cities do, takes away the option of not allowing dogs for those who feel strongly on the other side of this issue.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any further questions and I apologize for any formatting issues.

Sincerely,  
Collin Castore  
Founder/Partner/COO Seventh Son Brewing  
President of the Ohio Craft Brewers Association