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**Sponsor Testimony - House Bill 160**

**State and Local Government Committee**

**May 14, 2019**

Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chair Ginter, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the State and Local Government Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 160.

House Bill 160 allows, among other things, an alcoholic ice cream manufacturer the right to ship their products to personal consumers through a permitted shipper. It also allows the manufacturer to sell their product to retail liquor holders for resale to consumers. This product is only able to be sold to personal consumers if certain conditions are met, including verification that the consumer is at least 21 years old.

Under current Ohio law, beer growlers and wine bottles are able to be sold from retailers and restaurants and these type of sales should include the up and coming product of alcoholic ice cream. Current law also restricts the sale of this product to only the permit-holders premises and under new law, this product will be able to be sold from grocery stores and by the scoop at restaurants.

Clear requirements for verification are included when shipping the product in this bill. The package must be clearly marked that alcohol is enclosed, prior to sending the shipment the permit holder must make an effort to ensure the consumer is at least 21 and at time of delivery, verify that the consumer is 21.

Ohio has an opportunity to become a national leader in this product with laws that are more conducive to this business. Buzzed Bull Creamery in Cincinnati has a business model that is great for our state. Analysts on Wall Street have pegged this industry at 1.25 and 2.5 billion dollars per year in the U.S by 2022. Let’s keep this growth in Ohio and lead in this industry.

Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chair Ginter, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the Stateand Local Government Committee, I thank you for your time, and I will be happy to answer any questions at this time.