

Testimony Before the Ohio House Judiciary Committee

Date: 6/4/25

Chairman Thomas, Vice Chair Mathews, Ranking Member Issacsohn, and Members of the Committee:

Good afternoon. My name is John Lynch, I am an Ohio beverage manufacturer and I appreciate the opportunity to testify.

I will be very brief. I am here in support of additional language that would allow bars and restaurants to continue serving hemp beverages to customers.

These beverages are currently served in hundreds and hundreds of bars and restaurants throughout Ohio. People are enjoying them safely and the language in your Bill will make these beverages even safer by lowering the amount of THC allowed in a drink.

The revenue generated by bar sales would add millions of dollars to the general revenue fund.

The people consuming these drinks come from every walk of life - tennis moms, retirees, veterans, young people who don't drink beer the list goes on and on. And the reasons they drink them vary. Sure my drinks taste great and make you feel good, but some people just don't consume alcohol, some people like to hang out in a social setting, but have anxiety and these can help. I don't personally use these. I prefer beer, but I really enjoy being able to sit at a bar and have a conversation with someone who is drinking what they want to drink.

Thank you again for considering this language and for the opportunity to testify. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.