

New York Farm Bureau

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MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Senate Bill 2852-A (Senator Skoufis) / Assembly Bill 3132-A (Assemblymember Lupardo)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL LAW, RELATION TO AUTHORIZING THE DIRECT INTRASTATE AND INTERSTATE SHIPMENT OF LIQUOR, CIDER, MEAD, AND BRAGGOT AND RELATES TO DIRECT SHIPMENTS OF WINE

Date: 3/25/2024

New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest agricultural advocacy organization, respectfully requests your support for this legislation. If enacted, this bill would authorize producers of liquor, cider, mead and braggot to ship directly to consumers, creating parity within the craft beverage industry. This legislation will also benefit and strengthen both the apple and grain industry across the state. Additionally, this would provide economic development opportunities by growing small, mostly family-owned businesses while supporting New York State's agricultural community, creating jobs and driving tourism throughout the state.

Currently, only wineries are able to ship directly to consumers. Our Wine producers have proven that direct to consumer shipping can be done safely and effectively. This bill would allow farm beverage producers the ability to ship up to thirty-six cases a year directly to consumers. This will allow our New York producers to expand their opportunities for new markets and grow sales. Creating further reach and more access to New York's excellent farm beverages will help this industry continue to thrive. Craft beverage trails have been a huge tourism draw and this legislation will allow those to purchase products after the fact without having to return to the tasting room.

For these reasons, New York Farm Bureau requests your support of this legislation. Thank you for your time and consideration of these comments.