

House Business Affairs & Labor
03/03/2021 Upon Adjournment of public caucus meetings
Testimony - HB21-1027 Continue Alcohol Beverage Takeout & Delivery

| First Name | Last Name | Position | Representing | Text of Testimony |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|--|
| Owen | Kemp | For | Self | <p>My name is Owen Kemp and I'm a commercial property and homeowner in Downtown Littleton. I'm writing you in support of HB21-1027 currently under consideration that would make the delivery/to go sale of alcohol permanent. As both a patron and a landlord in an area that is heavily anchored by bar & restaurant establishments I have had the experience of witnessing up close the stories and struggles that these businesses have fought through over the last year. These businesses were forced to adapt and change business models constantly to keep their doors open, continue serving customers, and ultimately survive a treacherous year.</p> <p>One item that was put in place and continues to remain positive for this group is the ability to include to-go alcohol sales in their day-to-day business model for takeout/delivery business. While this doesn't make up or replace the ability to serve people inside an establishment, the lifeline created a welcome shift for business owners and patrons. As we slowly return to some form of normal this lifeline NEEDS to remain an option for these businesses as they look for stability and solid footing.</p> <p>In all reality, this past year has created permanent changes to an industry that is critical to the character and vibrance in all of our communities. Customer behavior has shifted. While some want to visit establishments again, many others now prefer the ease and safety of take-out/delivery at home. The indefinite continuation of the to go and delivery of alcoholic beverages allows these business owners to move forward with confidence in their adaptations over the last year rather than having to once again navigate a change in their business models and alteration of customer expectations.</p> <p>Without this bill the shift comes to an end in July. At that point a much-needed revenue stream is cut off from the business and the customer who has now started to plan their Friday nights around carryout taco's and margarita's, or takeout pizza and beer from their favorite establishment is no longer able to support their favorite local business in the same way.</p> <p>I ask that you STRONGLY consider and pass the permanent continuation of this change. The change has been a positive for small businesses, a positive for their customers and in a year that has seen an ever-shifting landscape, it would be a welcome continuation of a lifeline that has become important to many in an industry that has been hit harder than most.</p> |