



April 2, 2020

**The Honorable Governor Tim Walz & Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan**

130 State Capitol  
75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Tim Walz and Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan:

The Minnesota Craft Brewers Guild and Hospitality Minnesota are coordinating our efforts to ask that you enact relief efforts to help restaurants and breweries remain solvent during this time of crisis.

Our organizations support hundreds of thousands of employees statewide that have been severely affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Though we understand the need to close restaurants and breweries to keep Minnesotans safe, these businesses are in grave danger of shutting down forever (and some already have). To that, our organizations are asking that you enact **an executive order that the MN Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Department provides regulatory relief allowing broader off-sale options for the alcoholic beverage industry**. Recently, California enacted a similar regulatory relief order to help restaurants, breweries, and bars get by during this time and we know this is the most effective way to help these businesses during this time.

What would this look like? This regulatory relief would support the alcoholic beverage in its efforts to aid Minnesota in slowing the spread of the virus while assisting the industry in dealing with the economic challenges it is facing as a result. As you know, restaurant and brewery owners care deeply about the safety of their consumers. We believe that none of these measures, exercised on a temporary basis, will jeopardize the public's health, safety, or welfare. This would remove the need to address concerns from individual requests for relief submitted to the AGED and the Governor's office and temporarily allow these small businesses to continue to serve their customers safely.

Restaurants and breweries are the cornerstones of their communities and want to continue to serve their patrons long after this pandemic has passed. We have come together to advocate for this change because it impacts so many hard-working Minnesotans and we believe the time to enact this regulatory relief is right now. Please make this necessary executive order so that our restaurants and breweries can be there for Minnesotans when we emerge from this fight.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lauren Bennett McGinty'.

**Lauren Bennett McGinty**  
Executive Director  
Minnesota Craft Brewers Guild

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Liz Rammer'.

**Liz Rammer**  
President & CEO  
Hospitality Minnesota