

Tara Schaefle

From: Chris Canavati <chris@lscfinancial.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 12:48 PM
To: Dan Wolgamott
Cc: Tara Schaefle
Subject: H.F. 3572

Good afternoon Representative Wolgamott,

I hope this email finds you healthy and safe during this trying time.

I am writing to ask for your support for the H.F. 3572 Bill. This Bill would enable the St Cloud Blizzard to obtain a license to sell beer and wine on the premises of the St Cloud Municipal ice arena.

The Blizzard are members of the North American Hockey League which is comprised of 26 teams across the country. This league provides young men aged 16 -21 the opportunity to pursue their dream of playing hockey at the collegiate hockey level. Our mission is to provide development opportunities for these young men both on and off the ice to prepare them for that opportunity.

Operating a team in the North American Hockey League requires strict adherence to USA Hockey Standards as well as NAHL standards for Junior Hockey. These standards require a significant budget in order to be in compliance. The sale of beer and wine to our fans is a very important component of that budget.

Under the existing laws, the Blizzard would only be able to obtain a license to sell 3.2 beer. As the State of Minnesota is one of the only remaining states to have a 3.2 law, the availability of 3.2 beer and the availability of a variety of brands is either limited or nonexistent and limits the Blizzard's ability to maximize revenue opportunities in order to meet its budget. 22 of 26 teams in the North American Hockey League operate outside of Minnesota and do not have the 3.2 restriction. In addition, it is my understanding that 2 of the 4 teams operating in Minnesota have successfully obtained approval through a similar process as this. They operate in Richfield, MN and Austin, MN.

Your support for this bill will help the Blizzard to continue to provide these young men necessary development programs in order to pursue their dreams of playing college hockey.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind Regards,

Chris Canavati



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