

Maine Beer and Wine Distributors urges support for the [Majority Report](#). The Majority Report prioritizes public health, Maine jobs and it ensures that Maine moves forward with all of the information necessary to make an informed, responsible choice.

MAJORITY REPORT



Requires BABLO to examine the current challenges of direct-to-consumer wine sales to assess compliance before expanding DTC opportunities for spirits.



Requires a regulatory and environmental review of bottle redemption issues under the direct-to-consumer model.



Requires BABLO to examine the public health and safety challenges the state would face under a DTC model with a report back to VLA Committee.

MINORITY REPORT



Allows out-of-state distilleries and rectifiers to ship **200 cases of spirits per calendar year** directly to Maine consumers, bypassing retailers, wholesalers and local redemption centers.



Weakens the State's ability to enforce alcohol laws as interstate spirits shipping does not include common carrier reporting requirements to validate chain of custody, ID verification of legal sales or tax collections.



Drives up the cost of the bottle deposit program for Maine businesses due to dual distribution of spirits.



Allows out-of-state businesses to ship spirits directly to Mainers without collecting a bottle deposit.

The minority report for LD 1358 puts Maine businesses at a disadvantage. Alcohol is an intoxicant that should be sold responsibly in a strong, state-based regulatory system by locally-licensed businesses.

According to BABLO, an audit of one wine shipper for one year revealed a **loss of \$36,000** to Maine's bottle deposit system. **BABLO estimates had it been spirits, the loss would have been \$44,400 from one single shipper.**