

SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

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Oregon Senate Passes Critical Support for Local Restaurants

SALEM – Today, the Oregon State Senate approved Senate Bill 1801 to assist Oregon's local restaurant industry by expanding the items they are permitted to sell to-go.

"The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and a tragic wildfire season has created substantial challenges for our restaurant industry," said Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward (D-Beaverton) who carried the bill on the Senate floor. "Oregon's vibrant restaurants, bars and pubs have adapted and flexed at every turn as our state has taken necessary steps to protect the health and safety of Oregonians."

Senate Bill 1801 allows restaurants to sell cocktails, mixed drinks and a single serving of wine in a sealed container to be consumed off premises, if a "substantial food item" is also purchased. In addition, the bill puts limitations on the fees that third-party platforms can charge a restaurant to fulfill food pick-up and delivery orders.

"Many of our favorite restaurants rely on the sale of our state's renowned craft beer, wine, and spirits in order to earn a living and provide crucial jobs for our communities," added Senator Steiner Hayward. "I'm grateful we were able to approve this assistance today."

Senate Bill 1801 now goes to the Oregon House of Representatives for consideration. When the legislation becomes effective, it will remain law until 60 days after the state of emergency is lifted by Governor Kate Brown.

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