June 15, 2021

The Honorable Ron Wyden
United States Senate
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Merkley
United States Senate
313 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Brewery support for the River Democracy Act of 2021

Dear Senators Wyden and Merkley,

We, the undersigned business owners, applaud the introduction of the River Democracy Act of 2021 and thank you for your leadership to protect the Oregon rivers and waterways that provide our great state with clean drinking water, amazing recreation opportunities, and critical habitat for wildlife.

Craft brewing is one of Oregon’s great industries. According to the Oregon Brewers Guild, each year, the Oregon brewing industry supports more than 31,000 jobs directly and indirectly and contributes $4.49 billion to the state’s economy. And Oregon craft brewing companies give back to their communities, donating millions of dollars to Oregon-based causes. The numbers don’t lie: Oregon craft brewing companies lead the nation and that’s in part because we have a vital and healthy place to produce our beer. People choose to live in Oregon for the natural beauty of our rivers and outdoor spaces, and many build their livelihoods around the thriving beer industry.

Our breweries – along with our amazing outdoor areas – are also a huge tourism draw, and a visit to our breweries often go hand in hand with adventures in the outdoors. Enjoying an Oregon beer after landing a fish, finishing a paddle, or making it back to the campsite after a good hike can be a singular moment and this legislation can help ensure that these moments can be enjoyed now and in the future. Moreover, the addition of nearly 4,700 miles of Oregon rivers and streams throughout the state to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system will protect the waterways that fuel our economy.

We appreciate the hard work and the years of consultation that went into crafting this bill to ensure that it represents the wishes and goals of Oregonians across the state. In these difficult times, it seems like exploring our majestic outdoors and enjoying a good beer is something upon which we can all agree. Thank you for introducing the River Democracy Act of 2021 and know that Oregon brewers stand with you as you work to pass this bill.

Sincerely, the undersigned,

ForeLand Beer
Fort George Brewery
Misty Mountain Brewing
Heater Allen Brewing
Worthy Brewing
Gigantic Brewing Company
Wayfinder Beer
Ecliptic Brewing
Breakside Brewery

Silver Falls Brewery
Migration Brewing Co.
Vertigo Brewing & Taproom
Conner Fields Brewing
Walkabout Brewing Company
pFriem Family Brewers
Deschutes Brewery
River Drifters
Chetco Brewing Company
Yachats Brewing LLC
Block 15 Brewing Co.
Alesong Brewing & Blending
Boneyard Beer
Fire on the Mountain
Barn Door Brewing
Oakshire Brewing
Vanguard Brewing Company
Smockville Brewhouse
Kobold Brewing
Oregon City Brewing Company
Lucky Labrador Brewing
Freebridge Brewing
Golden Valley Brewery & Restaurant
Blossom Barn Cidery
Sasquatch Brewery
Terminal Gravity Brewing, Inc.

The Ale Apothecary
The Wheel Apizza Pub
Ninkasi Brewing Company
Santiam Brewing Company
Little Beast Brewing
Mazama Brewing Company
Falling Sky Brewing
Seaside Brewery
7 Devils Brewing Co.
Great Notion Brewing
Double Mountain Brewery & Cidery
Running Dogs Brewery
Side A Brewing
Sunriver Brewing Company
Kells Brew Pub
Deluxe Brewing Co