

New Mexico Brewers Guild

Ebbie Edmonston | Executive Director

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Dear members of the committee,

I'm Ebbie Edmonston, Executive Director of the New Mexico Brewers Guild. I apologize that I couldn't be there in person today, and hope that this statement is informative in my absence.

I'm currently in Denver representing our state and the New Mexico beer industry at the Great American Beer Festival. New Mexico is home to 190 medals from this prestigious competition and we hope to bring home more by the end of the week.

New Mexico breweries generated \$338M in 2022 and is one of the few brewery markets in the nation that is still growing.

The most pressing issue that my members are currently facing is the increase of excise tax. The breweries who were fortunate enough to survive the closures of COVID-19 have been met with rising costs of goods and services. They simply can't afford a substantial increase as it would negatively affect sales.

We in the beer industry take consumption seriously and many breweries already implement responsible service by enforcing a three-drink limit and encouraging growler sales. Servers and sellers of alcohol are trained in responsible service practices that are approved by the state. These local business owners take their commitment to the community seriously and they understand what those promises mean to our industry.

Thank you for your consideration. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'EE', enclosed in a hand-drawn oval.

Ebbie Edmonston