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Senate Federal & State Affairs Committee  
SB 358

Testimony of  
Doug Jorgensen  
Director, Alcoholic Beverage Control

February 8, 2012

Good morning Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. I thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on SB 358.

ABC does not oppose or support the passage of SB 358. However, if the committee votes favorably on the passage of the bill, we would ask the committee to amend the bill to conform to statutes governing the sampling of alcoholic liquor at farm wineries and microbreweries, as ABC sees no reason for disparate treatment between the three types of operations.

Farm wineries and microbreweries have, for years, been serving free samples of their manufactured product without restriction on sample size or number of samples served. Each licensee can determine for itself how much product to place in a sample and when to "cut off" the number of samples served. ABC feels manufacturers serving free samples should have the same standard and opportunity for self-determination.

Further, ABC feels the restriction on sample size and number of samples is extremely difficult to enforce.

ABC therefore proposes the bill be amended to remove the restriction on sample size and number of samples allowed per person per day.

In closing, ABC would like to bring to the committee's attention that SB 277 is actually a much more comprehensive distillery bill and allows the tasting/sampling that this bill asks for, minus the restrictions on size and number of samples. Our recommendation to the committee would be the approval of SB 277 in lieu of this bill.

Thank you for favorably considering this proposed amendment.