



February 12, 2021

Before the Idaho Senate State Affairs Committee  
2021 Idaho Legislature  
Honorable Patti Anne Lodge, Chair  
Honorable Jim Guthrie, Vice Chair  
Honorable Chuck Winder  
Honorable Kelly Arthur Anthon  
Honorable Mark Harris  
Honorable Abby Lee  
Honorable Lee Heider  
Honorable Michelle Stennett  
Honorable Grant Burgoyne

Madame Chair  
Honorable Senators:

Thank for you for considering S1047, relating to the Waterfront Resort liquor license issued for Café Sabor in Island Park, Fremont County, Idaho.

The Café Sabor Island Park (Mack's Inn) location opened in 2014 is on the banks of the Henry's Fork River. When we originally applied for a liquor license, we were encouraged by ISP/ABC to apply for the Waterfront Resort license based upon our location. We received that license and have been actively operating with the license since that time. We have always believed we were in full compliance with all the requirements for a Waterfront Resort license.

Just this past spring, the Marriott Springhill Suites Hotel opened for business on the other side of the river. We are partners in the hotel. And the Café Sabor Waterfront Resort restaurant serves as a food/beverage outlet for this property.

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On June 15, 2020, I was notified by an alcohol license officer with Idaho State Police that the water flow in the Henry's Fork River would not meet the waterflow requirements of the statute. He said that when he approved the license in 2014, he had not verified the water flow in the river, and, that in recently doing so he discovered the issue. He came to notify us of this new issue before sending his findings to the main office of the Idaho ABC.

Our concern and the main objective of S1047 is to maintain our active, Waterfront Resort liquor license. As have all restaurants in Idaho, we have been impacted by COVID-19. Losing 30% in alcohol sales during the summer season would be very detrimental to our continued business success (especially in the summer season in Island Park). We have invested \$28,000,000 in the Mack's Inn area of Island Park in the recent years with Café Sabor, the associated Springhill Suites by Marriott (approx. \$24,000,000), float trips and a conference center/pizza & ice cream parlor. We have worked really hard and have created a beautiful resort on the banks of the Henry's Fork. We feel that the Café Sabor project truly meets the intention of and purposes of a Waterfront Resort.

Please vote in support of S1047.

Respectfully,

Justin Hamilton