

February 24, 2026

Chair Klein and Members of the Senate Commerce Committee:

On behalf of Red, White & Brew MN, thank you for hearing Sen. Latz's SF 3545. We support efforts to **align Minnesota law with today's consumer expectations**. This bill reflects the reality that 3.2 beer is no longer the product many Minnesotans choose, as evidenced by venues like the **Bloomington Dwan Golf Course seeking to upgrade from a 3.2 license to offer full-strength beer**.

We also urge the Committee to **allow cities to issue full-strength beer licenses in other locations currently limited to 3.2 beer**—convenience stores, grocery stores, and resorts. This is a straightforward modernization that reflects today's market and consumer demand.

Our proposal has **bipartisan support** and offers a clear opportunity to advance **common-sense policy** that meets Minnesotans where they are.

Minnesota's 3.2 Law Is Outdated

- Minnesota's 3.2 beer law is a **Prohibition-era policy** that no longer reflects how consumers shop or how products are made.
- Consumer demand has shifted **decisively to full-strength beer**, and few breweries are producing 3.2 options.
- Minnesota is now the **last state in the nation** with this restriction after Utah modernized in 2019.

The Market Has Already Shifted

- Retailers in **neighboring states can sell full-strength beer**; Minnesota businesses are at a competitive disadvantage.
- This change simply allows retailers to sell the **products consumers already expect**.
- Retailers are forced to stock **low-demand products**, resulting in lost sales and inefficiencies.

Economic Reality for Minnesota Brewers & Retailers

- **Very few Minnesota breweries** continue to produce 3.2 beer.
- Maintaining a separate, declining product category creates **unnecessary friction** across the supply chain.
- Modernizing the law **supports both retailers and brewers** while improving consumer choice.

Broad Public Support

- Polling consistently shows **strong support** for modernization.
- This is a targeted update—not a structural change—and it **preserves Minnesota's three-tier system**.
- Minnesotans should have access to the same types of products **available in nearly every other state**.

It's time! Modernizing our 3.2 beer law aligns Minnesota with the rest of the country, supports local businesses, and meets clear consumer demand—while maintaining existing safeguards.

On behalf of the Red, White & Brew MN Coalition,

Minnesota Retailers
Minnesota Grocers Association
Minnesota Convenience Store and Service Station Association
Fueling Minnesota
Hospitality Minnesota
Minnesota Chamber of Commerce