



September 20, 2016

Michigan Craft Distillers Association (MCDA) and its members support the reorganization of the Michigan Grape and Wine Industry Council to become a Michigan Craft Beverage Council representing wine (+ cider & mead), beer and spirits.

With regard to the reference to the budget allocation for staff and/or personnel, the MCDA recommends that the percentage be at least the same as it is currently (if not higher), given that even more responsibility is being added to roles of the staff. In order to efficiently manage the promotion and market the interests of the growing craft beverage industry in Michigan, this funding level must be maintained or increased. Ideally, the reference would be taken out altogether and the newly elected board of the council would determine the annual budget allocations.

Respectfully submitted,

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*Kent Rabish, Vice President
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*Don Coe, Secretary
Michigan Craft Distillers Association*

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