

# Village Of Custer

Lyle A. Reese

President

2241 E. Custer St.

Custer, MI 49405

(231) 757-3958

Rep. Brandt Iden, Chair  
House Regulatory Reform Cmte  
PO Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Representative Iden,

As president of the Village of Custer, it has come to my attention that our local Representative, Curt VanderWall of the 101<sup>st</sup> District, has recently introduced House Bill 5719 which is currently under review in your committee. From all reports I have seen, this bill address the issue of an anomaly in the beer & wine licensing quota system that was created when recently passed legislation was adopted to change beer and wine sales for locations that sold fuel.

Because this "anomaly" which currently restricts beer and wine licenses to one license per 1,000 people resident in a specific governmental unit without meeting other criteria and special conditions, it has had great impact on our ability as a small village which does not meet this 1,000 person threshold, to attract an owner and revitalize our local grocery store and the health of our local economy.

Although we realize this stumbling block that was created by the legislature with the passage of past bills was not intended to have a negative effect on small rural villages such as ourselves, we have experienced in recent months first hand the time consuming and negative effect it actually did have, and believe this House Bill 5719 would go along way towards rectifying the situation and correcting the problem.

For this reason, as a village, we would ask that you as the House Regulatory Reform Committee reviewing this bill, give full and mindful consideration to the plight of small villages throughout the state, and recommend the passage of this bill as expeditiously as possible.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Lyle A. Reese  
Village of Custer