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From:**Sent:** 14 June 2013 07:44**To:****Cc:** Pubs Consultation Responses; Enquiry Enquiry (Other Government Departments)**Subject:** RE Statutory regulation of pub co's

Dear

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I am writing as a constituent and also as a regional manager () for Enterprise Inns responsible for 43 pubs and publicans.

I have been in the role since . I write this in a personal capacity and it does not reflect the views nor is it sanctioned by my employer.

I have worked in the licensed trade on and off for over 10 years, for many of the leading managed house operators. This experience has given me a great understanding to be able to support my publicans in building sustainable businesses.

I have the pleasure of working with experienced publicans, some with multiple sites and also recruiting new publicans from many different backgrounds into joining this industry. Under the proposals, recruiting new publicans and giving the opportunity for experienced publicans to take on additional pubs, will be nigh on impossible as the entry level cost and the lack of support will be an inhibitor to most. The current pub co business model allows new and current publicans to take on public houses and develop them into sustainable businesses through the support we give, whether that be financially, through property improvement (at no extra cost to the publican), marketing and training support and through a partnership with their regional manager. It also gives a chance at a low cost entry for an individual to run their own business and develop job opportunities in the community.

The major economic and pub market decline I have witnessed makes it very difficult even with a low capital investment for publicans to fight daily in this unfairly competitive market, due to rising taxes and supermarket pricing. Under the proposals the potential for further accelerated pub closures and increased publican failure and distress is clear, and will result in communities being further robbed of a social and focal point, job opportunities and further depleting this great industry.

I am very proud to work for a company that invests in our pub estate and our publicans. Enterprise Inns also bring people like myself into the business to ensure our publicans get the best possible advice ,support, training and guidance to help them in this challenging environment which would not be possible under the new proposals.

Yours sincerely

(Copy to Dr Vince Cable MP and the BIS Committee)

04/12/2013