

# MINNESOTA CRAFT BREWERS GUILD

## What to do when a legislator is hosting an event at your taproom...

Know who's coming. If you didn't make the arrangements yourself, find out who's coming, for what purpose, and then do your research. What area do they represent? What kind of jurisdiction do they have? Where have they had legislative interest?

Check in with the Guild. Reach out and see if there's anything in particular you should know about the person coming and if it's worth having the Executive Director or a board member on hand, too.

Be sure you're there! You don't have to stay for the whole event but make sure you introduce yourself, shake hands, and take the opportunity to talk for a minute about your business.

Other topics may include:

- Current legislation at or going to the Capitol
- Issues your business is encountering
- The impact you have in the community

Follow up. Reach out after to thank them for choosing your location. Provide any information that follows up on your conversation.

Remember, they are coming to your taproom because they serve your area. You are a constituent and your feedback is valid. While you don't want to monopolize the elected official's time, it's ok to let them know you are an active advocate.



**MINNESOTA**  
CRAFT BREWERS GUILD  
BREWERS OF THE NORTH

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### CAN I OFFER A LEGISLATOR A BEER OR A GROWLER?

A legislator can't accept anything valued at more than \$5 unless it's being offered free to everyone. You're safe offering a beverage on the house but leave the growlers and crowlers on the shelf.

### HOW CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT MY LEGISLATOR AHEAD OF TIME?

Look them up online (<https://www.leg.state.mn.us/legdb/current>) and find out more about what they do when they're not at the Capitol, where they were born, how many kids they have, etc.

### WHAT SHOULD I TALK ABOUT?

Kick off the conversation with some information about your brewery -- give them a tour, show them the equipment, talk about how you got started --share your story!

From there, you can talk about how you're part of your community (who uses your taproom for meetings, what kinds of fundraisers or charitable events have you supported, etc.), what your plans are for growing, and where you'd like to see the craft brewing industry go next.

If you're up for it, you can get into the Guild's advocacy efforts and changes we'd like to see at the Capitol. Reach out to Lauren ([lauren@mncraftbrew.org](mailto:lauren@mncraftbrew.org)) if you'd like to have her attend the meeting to support the conversation.