

May 13, 2026

To the Members of the Vermont House Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs:

We, the undersigned Stowe business owners, write in support of H.954 — the Stowe Charter Amendment to increase local option taxes from 1% to 2% on retail sales, rooms, meals, and alcohol. Stowe voters approved both measures by strong margins on Town Meeting Day. We ask the Legislature to honor that mandate.

Stowe is one of Vermont's most visited communities, and that success creates real pressure on those who live and work here year-round, where housing costs and property taxes have reached unsustainable levels. It is fair that those who enjoy what Stowe has to offer — the trails, the roads, the public safety services — contribute modestly to its upkeep. A dollar raised through use taxes is a dollar that doesn't have to be raised through property taxes on Vermont homesteaders.

We have seen firsthand that when Stowe invests in itself, everyone benefits. Underground power lines on Main Street, the Stowe Arena, Cady Hill trails, the Rec Path — these projects made Stowe better for residents and visitors alike, and our businesses are stronger for it. Continued investment in our community's infrastructure is core to our business success. We also believe that when we grow the Stowe tax base through these actions, not only do we benefit locally, but so does the State through increased revenue into the State budget.

At 2%, Stowe's rates remain below comparable resort communities and well below Burlington's gross receipts rates. We are confident this will not harm local commerce. Our businesses depend on Stowe remaining a place people want to live and work — not just visit. This is a modest, locally approved tool to help ensure that, and we ask for your support.

Sincerely,

The Undersigned Stowe Business Community.

Danielle Moffat
Cork Restaurant
Cork Market
Candy Castle

Max Levine
The Bagel

Kendra and Rob Knapik
Ellison Estate Vineyard

Graham and Cristina Mink
Country Store on Main
Stowe Sweets

Ed Rovetto
Picasso Pizzeria

Jenna and Jeff Sereni
Salt + Grove

Hannah Mitrani
Dayhaus

Karen Fahey
Karen Fahey Advertising

Lisa Hagerty
Well Heeled

Scot Baraw
Coco Goose

Devon Williams
In Company

Beth Gadbois
The Body Lounge

Rick Sokoloff and Marina Meerburg
4 Points North

Scott and Heather Snyder
Sterling Ventures LLC

Jill Anne
Sotheby's International Reality

Rob Blood
Field Guide Lodge
Apres Only
Cady Hill Lodge
AWOL Stowe

Noah Labow
Green Mountain Academy

George Coultas
Elevate Movement

Abby Dow Blackburn
Artworks

Paul and Laura Biron
Butler House

Andrew Kohn & Don Jones
Brass Lantern Inn

Edward Flanagan
Stowe Seafood

Jennifer Martin
Plate Restaurant