



10 February 2017

Committee Secretariat  
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington

**Email:** [fadt@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:fadt@parliament.govt.nz)

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Submission on the Customs and Excise Bill**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment further on the Customs and Excise Bill. Spirits NZ represents over 96% of the spirits market in New Zealand.

Our members are Bacardi, Beam Suntory, Brown-Forman, Diageo, Hancocks, Independent Liquor, Lion, Moet-Hennessy and Pernod Ricard. In addition we have three associate members who are Anchor Ethanol, EuroVintage and Federal Merchants.

We have been extensively consulted and involved in the preparation of the Bill and commend the Minister and officials on an exemplary process to reach this point.

During the consultation process, while we have not always agreed, we have managed to work together and reach workable outcomes which, once fully enacted, will create measurable savings for Members who manufacture in New Zealand. In particular this will be through the simplification of the current remissions regime through already introduced regulations.

With every positive change we understand that there comes with it additional responsibility. From Spirits NZ's perspective we acknowledge that to gain the benefits of an administratively simpler system Members will need to ensure that specified record –keeping and declarations will need to be properly maintained.

We are committed to this and will continue to work with Customs officials to ensure compliance is maintained.

We look forward to continuing to work with government on the implementation of the Bill and on further discussion regarding the broadening of its reach to include imported product.

Spirits NZ does not wish to appear before the Committee when it hears oral submissions.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert Emve". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Chief Executive

cc Phil Brosnahan, Chair