



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

William Larkin

## **Senate Passes Larkin Bill To Assist Micro-distilleries**

William J. Larkin Jr.

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The New York State Senate has passed legislation (S.4075-A) sponsored by Senator Bill Larkin (R-C, Cornwall-on-Hudson) that would allow micro-distilleries to sell their products at wineries and farm wineries throughout the state.

"Under current law, micro-distilleries can only sell their products to a wholesaler or retail store," explained Senator Larkin. "These little family-run distilleries manufacture very limited quantities of spirits and therefore generally do not have broad name recognition. By allowing them to market and sell their products to farm wineries and larger wineries throughout New York, they can become more well known to the public."

Under current law, wineries and farm wineries are able to conduct brandy tastings and sell their products for off-premise consumption. The Larkin bill would permit micro-distilleries to do the same with their products.

Larkin added, "This idea is one more way to help area residents maximize the potential of their small businesses. In addition, I expect this legislation to bring attention to the outstanding quality of these local beverages which are made from home grown New York agricultural products."

The bill now goes to the Assembly.