



February 8, 2011

Ken Capano, President
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SUPPORT for raised House bill 6264,
AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE SALE OR DISPENSING OF ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR ON
SUNDAY.

To: The Hon. Paul R. Doyle, Co-Chairman, The Hon. Joseph J. Taborsak, Co-Chairman, The Hon. David A. Baram, Vice-Chairman, The Hon. Kevin D. Witkos, Ranking Member, The Hon. Rosa C. Rebimbas, Ranking Member and the members of the General Law Committee

Good afternoon Chairman Doyle, Chairman Taborsak and members of the General Law Committee. My name is Ken Capano and I am the owner/operator of the ShopRite of Norwich, ShopRite of New London, and the ShopRite of Clinton. This is an issue that is very important to me and my customers, and I appreciate you taking the time to discuss this matter.

I support raised House bill 6264, which would allow the Sunday sale of alcohol in my ShopRite supermarkets, and urge you to please do the same.

As we are all aware, the State is facing a \$3.5 billion budget deficit for FY 2012. Lifting the ban on Sunday sales has the potential to generate over \$8 million of new revenues.¹ In these economic times, this is a fact that should not be ignored.

In addition to being a bill that will help the State financially, this is a measure that will ultimately benefit our customers.

This prohibition has been in place since 1933. While it may have made sense almost 80 years ago, in today's modern world it no longer fits my customers' lifestyles. This is especially true in the communities my stores serve, where many of my customers are employed at the casinos and work shifts that span all hours of the day and night. The typical work week is no longer a Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm work week. Sunday has become the busiest shopping day for my stores. I need to be able to provide my customers with a convenient, one-stop shopping experience every day of the week, especially on Sunday.

¹ 2009 report issued by the Program Review and Investigations Committee

If I am unable to provide them the shopping experience they desire, they will simply cross state lines and shop in bordering state stores that do allow the sale of alcohol on Sunday. Connecticut loses money every time our customers cross state lines to purchase their groceries and alcohol. During these tough economic times it is imperative that we do all we can to keep Connecticut customers in Connecticut.

Allowing Sunday sales of alcohol will provide much needed revenues for Connecticut, provide my customers with a convenient and affordable shopping experience every day of the week, and allow supermarkets operating near the border the chance to operate on a level playing field.

I urge you to support raised House bill 6264 and the lifting of Connecticut's antiquated blue law ban on the Sunday sale of alcoholic beverages.

Thank you.