

D'Aprile Package Store, LLC
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To Respected Members:

I, Achille V. D'Aprile, have been the owner of D'Aprile Package Store, LLC, a 6,000 square foot store with 8-10 employees, on Franklin Avenue in Hartford, for the past 35 years. I am also the co-owner of D&D Market in the same complex with 32-35 employees.

Although, some feel liquor sales on Sundays would be increase revenues for the State in these difficult economic times. I am opposed to opening liquor stores on Sunday in the State of Connecticut because I feel it would place a burden on the business owner and it would be a detriment to the State of Connecticut. I feel this will occur if the State allows Liquor Sales on Sundays:

- Sales will not increase, but be dragged out for 7 days instead of the 6. For example, a customer doesn't have to come in on Saturday to make a purchase, that same customer can now come in on Sunday. It's the same customer, instead of making a liquor purchase in 6 days, that customer now has an extra day to make their same purchase. This does not increase sales, but it prolongs the sale to the 7th day.
- The State thought by allowing Package Stores to remain open until 9:00 p.m. would increase revenue for the State. It did not increase sales or revenues for us, the business owner, or most stores in the State. Instead this is what happened:
 - It exposed Owners and their employees to more difficult elements especially in the City of Hartford.
 - It procrastinated or postponed or prolonged the sale, the consumer no longer had to make that purchase by 8:00 p.m., that same person has until 9:00 p.m. to make that same purchase. That's not increasing sales.
 - This is exactly what would happen with liquor stores opening on Sundays.
- The cost to liquor store employers will become prohibitive to operate on Sundays because of the increase costs to Payroll, Utilities as well as Liability and the sales will not increase. Businesses are having enough difficulty surviving in these difficult economic times. Does the State want to burden the small business person more by having them open on Sundays causing more business to fail? This would have a reverse effect on revenue for the State.
- Help will become a problem to the employers, because my staff has already expressed that they do not want to work on Sunday. They do not care if they get overtime pay, double time or what. They do not want to work; they feel it will infringe upon their time off and time with their families. If an employer cannot find help to work on Sundays, how is a liquor store going to be open? This will again put an added burden on the business owner.
- D&D Market is not open on Sundays because we discovered that it was not profitable and the same would occur for the Package Store.
- We are a store that's struggling in the City of Hartford to survive with multifaceted issues such as:
 - Trying to increase sales so that we can pay our expenses and taxes for the City of Hartford.
 - Trying to get new customers to come into our store from the suburbs so that we can increase sales to survive, but we need to fight the stigma that the City of Hartford has in order to get that customer.
 - Do you honestly think having a liquor store open on Sundays will help the plight in Hartford?
 - The City of Hartford and its leaders should have enough on their plates to try to improve the City and not get involved with supporting liquor sales on Sundays. Instead it should focus on cleaning up the mess within and focus on making Hartford a vibrant city again.
- Opening package stores and allowing liquor sales in Connecticut on Sundays will cost the State and its citizens in the long run. Problems will arise, especially in the City of Hartford and we all should ask ourselves are we ready to handle these problem? Some examples of the problems that would arise are:
 - The City currently has a large crime rate. If alcohol is sold on Sundays, crime will increase. Will the City of Hartford hire more police officers to take care of the added crime in the City?
 - There will be more killings, robberies, domestic violence, accidents, deaths on our roadways and DWI's. Will the State hire more State police officers to handle the added problems?
 - If our law makers think that State will profit significantly by selling liquor on Sundays, the same law makers should then think about how much will the law enforcement cost to handle the problems arising from an additional day of liquor sales. Ask yourself: Does the profit out way the cost?

For all of the reasons given, this why I am opposed to Liquor sales on Sundays in the State of Connecticut

Sincerely,
Achille V. D'Aprile-Member-D'Aprile Package Store, LLC