



CONNECTICUT POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

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Testimony to the Committee on General Law

March 8, 2011

Chiefs James Strillacci and Anthony Salvatore, Connecticut Police Chiefs Association

Senator Doyle, Representative Taborsak, and members of the General Law Committee, we are submitting testimony on behalf of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association (CPCA), which represents all municipal police department in Connecticut as well as police departments at private and state universities. Among other duties, these police departments enforce liquor laws and investigate crimes associated with alcohol abuse.

We support **Raised Bill 985, AN ACT AMENDING THE LIQUOR CONTROL ACT**. We are particularly pleased to see its prohibition of so-called "bottle service," a practice which has appeared in some permit establishments wherein a patron buys a bottle of vodka or other spirits, allegedly for the table. This practice can easily lead to over-serving of customers, compared to the service of individual drinks.

As a practical matter, there is no way for the server to control the consumption of the bottle's contents—it may be consumed by ten guests at the table, or by one individual alone.

Further, because the purchaser has already paid for the bottle, he's likely to finish it, whereas a patron buying a drink at a time can just stop buying when he's had enough.

Prohibition of bottle service is one more tool in combating driving under the influence, rowdy behavior, and other predictable effects of excessive drinking in permit premises.

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