

My name is Bill DeDominicis. I own a bowling center in Torrington and I am here on behalf of the Connecticut Bowling Proprietors Association.

We are very much in favor of the passage of Bill # SB#391 which pertains to "Allowing Persons who are sixteen and seventeen years old to work in on premise liquor establishments"

Presently section 30-90a of the liquor regulation restricts us from employing minors in the bowling centers with liquor licenses.

In the past, before this was brought to our attention by the liquor commission, we would employ youths to:

Host kids birthday parties  
assist with the youth leagues  
handout shoe rentals  
and some light building clean ups.

This was a great opportunity for them to be exposed to the work world, which seems to have become very difficult for them with all the regulations already imposed. It also was a good opportunity for the employer to determine their work ethics. There are success stories out there where some have gone on to work at the snack bar, control desk and building maintenance to supplement their income or while commuting to college.

We understand and agree that they should not be involved with alcohol segment of the business but there is no reason why they cannot handle the other chores previously mentioned. For all the same reasons youths that they are allowed to be employed in grocery stores can be applied to the other permit premises.

This regulation was probably well intended when it was written but it appears that some opportunities for employment were eliminated as a result of it.

This is the perspective from the bowling industry but it affects much more than the bowling industry.

I hope you will feel fit to approve this bill and I would be glad to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for the opportunity to address your committee.

If I can add further information I can be reached at 860-489-3343.