



38 Hungerford Street – Hartford, CT 06106 – www.ctrestaurant.org
Phone: (860) 278-8008

Testimony Before the General Law Committee

February 23, 2016

HB 5329 AA EXPANDING SUNDAY ALCOHOL LIQUOR RESTARUANT SALES HOURS

The Connecticut Restaurant Association represents over 600 restaurants and affiliated businesses across the state. Our members range from quick serve to casual to fine dining establishments. The Connecticut hospitality industry employs an estimated 145,000 people, making up 9% of our states' workforce. Restaurants are a driving force in the state's economy and generate tremendous tax revenue.

The CRA supports HB 5329 An Act Expanding Sunday Alcohol Liquor Restaurant Sales Hours. Many restaurants across Connecticut serve brunch on the weekends, beginning service at 10am on Sundays. However, current law does not allow the sale of alcohol at restaurants on Sundays until 11am. Restaurants serving brunch on Sundays are often fully booked with reservations beginning at 10am, but are prohibited from serving typical brunch items like Bloody Mary's and Mimosas until 11am.

If enacted, restaurants would have the option of beginning brunch service earlier or the ability to offer alcoholic beverages to their patrons upon opening at 10am for brunch. We thank you for your consideration.
