



November 15, 2021

The Honorable Frank Dick Stein
Chairman, House Commerce and Labor Comm
77 South High Street
12th floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Stein:

These comments are submitted on behalf of the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States, a national trade association representing producers and marketers of distilled spirits sold in the United States, in support of the Sunday Sales components contained in substitute Senate Bill 102.

Across the country, states have modernized their marketplace with regard to alcohol sales laws. Since 2002, 21 states have passed laws permitting Sunday sales including Ohio's neighboring states of Indiana, Pennsylvania, Kentucky and West Virginia.

Substitute SB 102 would simplify Ohio's law regarding Sunday sales by revising the method to get on the local ballot. This would benefit small business owners by sparing retailers from confusing threshold metrics and ultimately save them time and resources. A uniform and straightforward signature tally is a fair proposal that aligns with current procedures for elected officials.

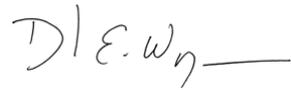
Furthermore, the bill allows a retail operator or liquor agency store to sell beer or intoxicating liquor on Sunday during the same hours that they sell those products Monday-Saturday. Establishing consistency for Sunday sales provides today's consumers with the convenience they want. Sunday is the second busiest shopping day of the week for the majority of families. These families do most of their shopping on the weekend and aligning the sale of spirits, beer and wine on Sunday gives adult consumers more choices and added convenience. Shoppers also tend to spend as much as 21% more on Sunday than any other day of the week.

For those that may be concerned that additional off-premise Sunday sales may increase underage purchases or drunken driving, the data does not support that argument. According to an analysis using U. S. Department of Transportation data on alcohol-related fatalities, there is no statistical difference in states that allow Sunday liquor sales compared to those that do not. Further, the law clearly states that if you are under 21 you cannot purchase alcohol. Certainly, the laws that pertain to beverage alcohol purchases remain the same whether alcohol is purchased on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Sunday. Expanded Sunday sales simply gives adult consumers more convenience that fits the modern lifestyle and accommodates tourists and visitors to Ohio.

We urge the Committee to positively recommend the changes pending in SB 102 and give Ohio consumers the added convenience they deserve.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Wojnar" followed by a horizontal line.

David Wojnar
Vice President of State Government Relations