
UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS INTERNATIONAL UNION, AFL - CIO

Brian A. Petronella
International Vice President
President, Local 371 U.F.C.W.

March 23, 2010

The Honorable Senator John A. Kissel
Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee
Room 506, Capitol Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Chairman Kissel:

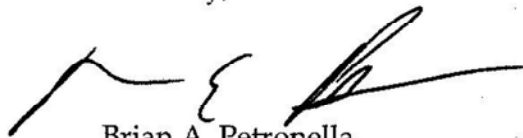
On behalf of the members of UFCW Local 371, I write today to note our strong support for Senate Bill 204 to repeal Connecticut's antiquated blue law ban on the Sunday sale of alcoholic beverages at neighborhood grocery and package stores.

Connecticut is the only state in the Northeast, and one of only three states in the nation, that still prohibits the Sunday sale of beer, wine, and spirits at neighborhood grocery and package stores. This means less convenience for Connecticut consumers and lost business for grocery and package stores located near the border of neighboring states that have eliminated this blue law prohibition.

Lifting this antiquated blue law will lead to increased sales, which in turn will mean more hours and new jobs for our members who are already struggling in this difficult economy. Increased sales will also mean desperately needed new revenue for the state. According to a December 2009 report issued by the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee, the state could see an increase of up to \$8 million in new revenue if the Sunday alcohol sales prohibition were repealed.

This is a common sense, pro-consumer reform that is long overdue. Please support Senate Bill 204 and end Connecticut's outdated ban on the Sunday sale of alcoholic beverages at neighborhood grocery and package stores.

Sincerely,



Brian A. Petronella
International Vice President
President, Local 371 UFCW