



Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters

Strength in Numbers 95,000

LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT

William Hamilton, President & Eastern PA Legislative Coordinator – Carl Bailey, Secretary-Treasurer & Western PA Legislative Coordinator – Tim O'Neill, Consultant – Dan Grace, Trustee & Legislative Advisor – Robert Baptiste, Esq. Legal Advisor – Thomas Felice, Staff

PROFIT BEFORE CONSTITUENTS

When will some of our elected officials realize that robots driving and making deliveries, electronic tolling, outsourcing good family sustaining jobs by privatizing, etc. isn't good for their constituents or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?



Lawmaker Proposes Constitutional Amendment to Privatize Liquor

Critics say it will raise prices and limit choice

An online article from KDKA TV-Pittsburgh, PA explains that state representative (Republican Natalie Mihalek) proposed a constitutional amendment to get the state of Pennsylvania out of the liquor business.

Pennsylvania Rep. Dan Deasy, the senior Democrat on the House Liquor Control Committee, calls Mihalek's amendment "reckless" because it does not spell out what replaces the wine and spirits stores. Under Mihalek's bill, the legislature would have 18 months if the amendment passes to design a

new system. "The voters should know exactly what they're voting on, and how do we fill in the hole in the budget?" asks Deasy.

"The LCB (Liquor Control Board) transfers \$185 million a year to the General Fund. That provides a lot of programs, a lot of services, even to the police budget," says Deasy.

Pennsylvania taxpayers have owned and operated the state liquor system since Prohibition ended in 1933. Attempts to privatize – or turn this business over to private companies – have failed,

so Mihalek wants to try the constitutional amendment approach.

But Deasy and other critics say there is a cost to privatization since state-owned liquor stores return a profit.

“It returns a generous profit after all expenses to the taxpayers. So, whether you drink or not, this is a benefit for all Pennsylvanians,” says Wendell Young, who heads United Food and Commercial Workers Union which represents employees at the wine and spirits stores.

Young says privatization will raise prices and limit consumer choice, down from 5,000 bottles in many of our state-run stores to a few hundred in private stores.

Mihalek is not worried about either supply or prices. “The market will determine what’s being sold,” she says.

See full article at: [Lawmaker Proposes Constitutional Amendment To Privatize Liquor Stores – CBS Pittsburgh \(cbslocal.com\)](http://www.cbslocal.com)

PA HB 2272



Again, the PA Conference of Teamsters is asking all Affiliates to contact their PA State Representatives and tell them to oppose PA House Bill 2272. If approved, this bill would prevent the Commonwealth from selling any alcohol at wholesale or retail

PA HB 2272 IT'S JUST TOTAL

