



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

Alcohol Alert - January 7, 2021



The Illinois House of Representatives will be in Springfield on January 8th for a Lane Duck Session that could continue until January 14th, after the Inauguration.

[List of Lane Duck Legislators](#)

The House Executive Committee will meet at 2:00 pm on January 8 to consider **Senate Bill 54** to permanently allow licensed retailers to transfer, deliver, or ship alcohol to consumers and use a third-party facilitator license to deliver ALL alcoholic liquors everywhere within the State. The bill passed in the Senate one year ago!

- Underage drinking parties are held in off-campus houses, with the events promoted on social media. One person 21 and older could place an order and accept delivery of the alcohol, and the majority of people at the party could be high school and underage college students. **Verifying the delivery of someone 21 and over will not prevent underage drinking.** Underage drinking could increase if SB 54 becomes law!
- **SB 54 pre-empts Home Rule.** All municipalities would be forced to allow delivery of ALL alcohol, even in "Dry" communities where the sale of alcohol is prohibited.
- **Illinois has one of the HIGHEST rates of [binge drinking in the nation](#),** with a binge drinking rate of 21.6%. The rate of binge drinking and alcohol abuse could increase if SB 54 becomes law.
- **SB 54 will make alcohol more accessible.** Alcohol use has increased during COVID. [Research](#) in the Journal of the American Medical Association Network Open found that **women reported a nearly 50% increase in binge drinking** in spring 2020, compared to spring 2019. Alcoholics and people who

have lost their drivers license because of a DUI could have alcohol delivered to them and continue in their addiction.

- **Profit and convenience should not override public health, addiction, and safety concerns.** Every year 95,000 people die from alcohol-related causes such as alcohol poisoning, car crashes, falls, cirrhosis of the liver, cancer, drowning, homicide, and suicide. Allowing delivery of alcohol could increase addiction, domestic violence, underage drinking, and harm.

For Immediate Action

1. [Contact your State Representative](#) and ask him/her to vote NO on SB 54. Permanently allowing delivery and online sales of alcohol could increase addiction, domestic violence, underage drinking and harm.
2. **[File a Witness Slip](#)**. Fill out your name, etc. and type the following under these categories: Representing - SELF, Position - OPPONENT, Testimony - RECORD OF APPEARANCE ONLY.
3. Forward to 10 others.

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