

The Campaign for Addiction Prevention, Treatment and Recovery

Repeal the Sales Tax Exemption on Alcohol!

Action Alert

April 1, 2009

To: Campaign Supporters

From: Vic DiGravio and Maryanne Frangules, Campaign Co-Chairs

Re: **Contact the Joint Committee on Revenue and Attend the April 7th Hearing**

The Campaign for Addiction Prevention, Treatment and Recovery is a group of advocacy organizations that have come together to speak with one voice **to strengthen support for the Governor's proposal to repeal the state tax exemption on the sale of alcohol products sold in stores.** Repeal of this tax exemption **will raise an estimated \$92 million in state revenue** that can be dedicated to a Substance Abuse Health Protection Fund.

Actions Requested

1. **Call or email the Chairmen, Vice-Chairs, and members of the Joint Committee on Revenue by Monday, April 6th.** Their contact information is provided below.

Talking Points

- Repeal of the sales tax exemption on the sale of alcohol products sold in stores will raise an estimated \$92 million in state revenue that can be dedicated to a Substance Abuse Health Protection Fund.
 - The Substance Abuse Protection Fund would provide funding or supplement existing funding for a comprehensive continuum of substance abuse care.
 - A recent poll conducted by Strategic Opinion Research found that 58% of Massachusetts voters favor repealing the tax exempt status on alcohol purchase at a store for off-site consumption if the proceeds were put into a substance abuse health protection fund to support alcohol or other drug prevention, treatment and recovery support services.
2. **Attend the Joint Committee on Revenue Hearing, Submit Written Testimony, and Visit your Legislators on Tuesday, April 7th.**
 - *Attend the Hearing:* The Hearing will be held in Gardiner Auditorium at 10 a.m. at the State House in Boston. We need as many people as possible there to support our position!
 - *Submit Written Testimony:* Use the *Talking Points* above as the basis for written testimony. You do not need to testify in person. Testimony can be turned in the day of the hearing or emailed to the Chairmen at Benjamin.Downing@state.ma.us and Rep.JayKaufman@hou.state.ma.us
 - *Visit your legislators:* Visit your legislators while at the State House and encourage them to call or email Chairmen Downing and Kaufman, expressing their support for the repeal of the sales tax exemption on alcohol.

Questions? Call 508-647-8385, extension 0

Joint Committee on Revenue Contact Information

Senate Members: Senators

- [Downing](#) of Berkshire, Hampshire and Franklin - **Chair**
(617) 722-1625; Benjamin.Downing@state.ma.us
- [Montigney](#) of Second Bristol and Plymouth - **Vice-Chair**
(617) 722-1440; Mark.Montigny@state.ma.us
- [Buoniconti](#) of Hampden
617-722-1660; Stephen.Buoniconti@state.ma.us
- [Timilty](#) of Bristol and Norfolk
(617) 722-1222; James.Timilty@state.ma.us
- [Tucker](#) of Second Essex and Middlesex
(617) 722-1612; Susan.Tucker@state.ma.us
- [Knapik](#) of Second Hampden and Hampshire
(617) 722-1415; Michael.Knapik@state.ma.us

House Members: Representatives

- [Kaufman](#) of Lexington - **Chair**
617-722-2320; Rep.JayKaufman@hou.state.ma.us
- [Peisch](#) of Wellesley - **Vice-Chair**
617-722-2230; Rep.AlicePeisch@hou.state.ma.us
- [Greene](#) of Billerica
617-722-2239; Rep.WilliamGreene@hou.state.ma.us
- [Fennell](#) of Lynn
617-722-2575; Rep.RobertFennell@hou.state.ma.us
- [Wallace](#) of Boston
617-722-2013; Rep.BrianWallace@hou.state.ma.us
- [Driscoll](#) of Braintree
617-722-2396; Rep.JosephDriscoll@hou.state.ma.us
- [Ehrlich](#) of Marblehead
617-722-2013; Rep.LoriEhrlich@Hou.State.MA.US
- [Arciero](#) of Westford
617-722-2320; Rep.JamesArciero@hou.state.ma.us
- [Cantwell](#) of Marshfield
617-722-2014; Rep.JamesCantwell@state.ma.us
- [Evangelidis](#) of Holden
617-722-2263; Rep.LewisEvangelidis@hou.state.ma.us
- [Barrows](#) of Mansfield
617-722-2488; Rep.FJayBarrows@Hou.State.MA.US