

## Did You Know?

Right now there is no sales tax on alcohol purchased in Massachusetts stores.

Removing the tax exemption on alcohol would generate about \$115 million per year, if the 6.25 sales tax rate became law.

A Substance Abuse Health Protection Fund developed from Alcohol Sales tax revenues to help fund prevention, treatment and recovery would be a quality investment.



Please Help Individuals and families receive services that they deserve and need!

Help stop the downward spiral of addiction in Massachusetts  
Support the repeal of the sales tax exemption on alcohol purchased in stores to support addiction prevention, treatment and recovery



*Small Change for a Big Change*

Campaign for Addiction Prevention Treatment and Recovery

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**Repeal the Sales Tax Exemption on Alcohol Purchased in Stores**



*Just 6.25 cents on \$1.00  
Just Makes \$en\$e*

**Join The Campaign for Addiction Prevention, Treatment, & Recovery**

# Why Do We Need a Sales Tax on Alcohol

- Massachusetts has the 2nd highest rate of alcohol consumption in the United States.
- **Underage drinking kills four times as many teens as all illegal drugs combined. Studies show that underage binge drinking decreases when alcohol taxes are increased.**
- Alcohol and other drug abuse causes many health, social and financial problems for individuals and families as well as for schools, workplaces and society.
- **Most taxes on alcohol will be paid by heavy drinkers. Most consumers will barely notice a tax increase, if at all.**
- Studies show a wide range of benefits from higher taxes on alcohol including decreases in the frequency and quantity of drinking among teenagers; **the incidence of automobile crash fatalities; the spread of sexually transmitted diseases; the onset of liver cirrhosis; and decreases in mortality from alcohol-related diseases.**
- Many people who need help with addiction can't get the help they need due to lack of access to services.
- **Money is needed to fill gaps and expand access to prevention, treatment and recovery support services!**

## How can I help

Tell family and friends about why repealing the sales tax exemption on alcohol purchased in stores is important.

**Talk to neighbors, co-workers and friends about this proposal.**

Spread the word!

**Give a brochure to a friend.**

Educate your legislators about this issue!

**Stay tuned for *Calls to Action* and more developments on this**

To find your

Legislator's name call:

1-800-392-6090

or go to

[www.wheredoivotema.com](http://www.wheredoivotema.com)

State House Address

The State House

Boston, MA 02133

State House Telephone

617-722-2000

## Educate Your Legislators

*If you want to write a letter to your State Legislator, here is a template.*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

I am a concerned voter, who is very concerned about the fact that there are not enough prevention, treatment and recovery programs available for people who need help in Massachusetts. In this bad economy, our state needs revenues for quality services. Thus - when it comes to Conference Committee- **please support The Senate version of the state budget to repeal the sales tax exemption on alcohol purchased in stores. This revenue will help fund quality addiction prevention, treatment and recovery support services, as well as related programs.** And at a 6.25 % rate. it will save more lives and the Commonwealth money!

Please know that as a supporter of The Campaign for Addiction Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery, I look forward to a day when an alcohol sales tax can be dedicated to the development of a Substance Abuse Health Protection Fund managed by The Massachusetts Bureau of Substance Abuse Services . Such action would demonstrate that strategic action and resources are necessary to reduce the demand for alcohol and other drugs.

(Please add in a personal touch)

Thank you so much,

### Campaign for Addiction Prevention Treatment and Recovery

Contact Information

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Brochure initiated by Suzanne Buglione's Worcester State College Class-  
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