



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

July 20, 2015

Alcohol Action Alert



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Last week Governor Rauner signed **HB 398** to overturn the Happy Hour ban and allow discounted drinks 4 hours a day, 15 hours a week. This law will be difficult to enforce and could cause an increase in binge drinking and drinking and driving.

An estimated 32.6 Million Americans have alcohol problems. The following editorial makes some good points about the major threat of alcohol abuse.

Studies like the one from the CDC make for big headlines, and heroin use is indeed news, but such single-minded focus on one drug gives the wrong impression about **what substance really causes the most problems in society**. It's not heroin. But reports on **alcohol generate very little buzz or big headlines, apparently because it's legal**. But it's not for lack of scientific evidence and studies.

In 2010, British scientists said that **alcohol is a more dangerous drug than both crack cocaine and heroin when the combined harms to the user and to others are assessed**. A new study in the U.S. found that the risk of alcohol disorders appears to be going up in the last decade.

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION


Contact the governor and ask him to VETO two alcohol bills: *HB 3237*, allows alcohol companies to provide FREE social media to retail liquor establishments, and ***SB 1256***, allows the sale of alcohol near several churches and schools in Chicago. (217-782-6830 or 312-814-2121) E-Mail: <https://www.illinois.gov/gov/contactus/Pages/VoiceAnOpinion.aspx>

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