



# ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

**August 27, 2015**

**Alcohol Action Alert  
Call your Rep.**



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Last week the Senate came in for one day. A gas and oil bill (HB 3540) was amended and passed in the Senate to allow the sale and delivery of alcohol at a community college in southern Illinois and a meat market that is closer than 100 feet from a church in Chicago. The House will vote on the bill when they come back in session on Sept. 2.

Alcohol issues should not be addressed in this never ending session, which is supposed to address the budget impasse!

- HB 3540 allows alcohol to be delivered and sold on ANY property owned, operated or controlled by Lewis and Clark Community College.
- HB 3540 gives wide open, blanket approval for the sale of alcohol without any safeguards or restrictions for those under 21 years of age. What types of events will be covered? Will these be student led or public events? What proportion of individuals will be under the age of 21? Will prior written approval be required? What policies are in place to prevent the sale of alcohol to underage students?
- HB 3540 does not require approval from the Board of Trustees or office of the president before alcohol is sold or delivered on campus. Who will make the decisions concerning where and when alcohol can be sold?

***Virtually ALL college students experience the effects of college drinking,*** whether they drink or not.

**DEATH** - 1,825 college students die from alcohol-related injuries;

**INJURY** - 599,000 students are unintentionally injured under the influence of alcohol

**ASSAULT** - 696 students are assaulted by another student who has been drinking

**SEXUAL ABUSE** - 97,000 students victims of alcohol-related sexual assault or date rape

**DRUNK DRIVING** - 3.4 million students drive under the influence of alcohol

**ACADEMIC** - One fourth of college students have academic consequences due to drinking

**ALCOHOL ABUSE/DEPENDENCE** - 19% of students met the criteria; 5% seek treatment

**OTHER** - Suicide attempts, health problems, vandalism, property damage

<http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/alcohol-health/special-populations-co-occurring-disorders/college-drinking>

**Alcohol related problems tend to go up when alcohol is more readily accessible to young adults**, according to a study in the *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*. (January, 2011)

- HB 3540 also allows for the sale of alcohol at a meat market close to a church in Chicago. HB 3540 states, "Representatives of the church have delivered a written statement that the church does not object to the issuance of a license." We are concerned that when legislation of this nature is rushed through so quickly, that church leaders are pressured to give consent without discussing the issue with their board or the congregation. Sometimes the required letters are very vague or have not been written.

## FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

1. **Contact your State Representative** or call the statehouse switchboard (217-782-2000) to ask him/her to **Vote NO on HB 3540** to allow the sale of alcohol at a community college.
2. **Call the Governor** to OPPOSE selling alcohol at a community college - HB 3540 (Phone: 217-782-6830, 314-814-2121, or 800-642-3112).
3. Forward to 10 others.

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