

Statements For and Against

Statement For

I-1100: The best way to end the state liquor monopoly

As part of a modernization of law concerning beer, wine and liquor, I-1100 ends the state's monopoly on liquor sales, in the best interests of consumers. It directs the Liquor Board to concentrate on enforcement of liquor laws, such as prohibiting underage drinking, rather than devote its time and financial resources to marketing distilled spirits. The state has no business promoting and profiting from the sale of liquor.

I-1100 stops the state's 51.9 percent mark-up

Washington has the highest liquor taxes in the nation. In addition to high taxes, the state also charges a profit margin of 51.9 percent on each liter of alcohol it sells. I-1100 will end the monopoly profits that make ours the most expensive liquor in the country. I-1100 would allow retailers to purchase directly from manufacturers rather than accepting additional costs of a middleman.

I-1100 creates private sector jobs

Closing state liquor stores creates hundreds of new private sector jobs.

I-1100 improves competition

Old laws protect distributors from competition and stifle innovation. 1100 ends Prohibition era laws, improving competition for consumers.

Ending state liquor sales and making enforcement of liquor laws the primary responsibility of the Liquor Control Board is the best way to protect our kids and ensure fair competition. Please vote yes on I-1100.

Statement Against

Initiative 1100 completely deregulates sales and enforcement of hard liquor, beer and wine, threatening public safety and costing taxpayers millions.

More Hard Liquor Consumption, More Problems

Under this scheme hard liquor outlets will explode from 315 to 3,300, three times more per person than California. More than 2,000 convenience stores, neighborhood mini-marts, and gas stations — many near schools and in high crime areas — will sell liquor until 2 am. More consumption means more drunk driving, underage drinking and crime.

1100 Goes Too Far

I-1100 threatens public safety, wiping out alcohol regulation, including enforcement, making Washington the most deregulated state in the country. Washington currently ranks #1 in keeping hard liquor out of the hands of minors, but private outlets like mini-marts are 400% more likely to sell liquor to minors, according to Liquor Control Board data.

1100 Costs Taxpayers

State sales generate over \$350 million annually, funding for local schools, health care, police, firefighters, and alcohol and drug abuse prevention. 1100 will wipe out much of that revenue, meaning fewer services, higher taxes, or both. Given our budget crisis now isn't the time to lose these resources.

And 1100 makes it harder for Washington's small businesses to compete. Big out-of-state corporations will be given an unfair competitive advantage over our local craft breweries and wineries—costing us jobs when we can least afford it.

The Washington State Firefighters,
Washington Association of Churches, law

Rebuttal of Statement Against

Opposition is really about money, not public safety. I-1100 closes state liquor stores and returns state's focus where it belongs: enforcement of liquor laws. I-1100 provides choice and convenience to consumers and grows private sector jobs.

Taxes remain but price gouging ends.

Local zoning controls where stores are located. California has private liquor sales and fewer alcohol-related driving deaths per capita than Washington. The facts are clear; wild opposition claims are baseless. *I-1100 makes sense.*

Statement Prepared By

Jim Sinegal, CEO, Costco Wholesale Corporation; **Anthony Anton**, President/CEO of 5000 Member Washington Restaurant Association; **Paul Beveridge**, President, Family Wineries of Washington, Owner, Wildridge Winery.

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enforcement leaders and many others agree: Vote *no* on I-1100.

Rebuttal of Statement For

1100 creates an explosion of liquor outlets, to 3,300. Hard liquor will be available at convenience stores and mini-marts, which are 400% more likely to sell to kids. It wipes out enforcement funding, and an independent analysis found 1100 slashes \$275 million from services like schools and public safety.

Washington's craft brewers and winemakers oppose, because it threatens their ability to compete and create jobs. 1100: too risky, goes too far. Vote no.

Statement Prepared By

Jim Cooper, Washington Association for Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention; **Alice Woldt**, Executive Director, Washington Association of Churches; **Kelly Fox**, President, Washington State Council of Firefighters; **John Lovick**, Snohomish County Sheriff, **Sharon Ness**, RN, Acute Care Nurse, **Craig Sousie**, Emergency Medical Technician, Renton Fire and Emergency Services.

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