

Statements For and Against

Statement For

Get state government out of the liquor business. Vote yes on I-1105 to close state liquor stores and let qualified retailers sell spirits safely and responsibly.

Support Local Firefighters and Law Enforcement

Yes on I-1105 creates more revenue for local firefighters and police protection in cities and counties across the state. Local jurisdictions rely on revenue from liquor sales for services like public safety. I-1105 will "generate at least the same annual revenue for the state and local jurisdictions...as well as an additional \$100 million."

I-1105 is Responsible

I-1105 responsibly privatizes liquor sales the way 32 other states currently allow the private sector to operate liquor sales. I-1105 will ensure all taxes are paid and there is a paper trail documenting all liquor sales in the state. Under I-1105, applicants for retail licenses must be qualified to sell spirits and prove they meet certain safety and security standards.

Protects Against Underage Drinking

A yes vote on I-1105 will allow the Liquor Control Board to focus on preventing underage drinking, over consumption and making sure there isn't an explosion of liquor stores. Any license holder caught selling to a minor would immediately lose their license.

Better for Consumers and Jobs

I-1105 offers consumers convenience, more variety and more affordable prices while keeping public health and safety standards intact. I-1105 provides for the training and placement of displaced liquor store employees into new jobs in the private sector.

Statement Against

Initiative 1105 will increase taxes and decrease public safety.

More Hard Liquor Consumption, More Problems

I-1105 allows hard liquor stores to explode from 315 to more than 3,300: three times more per person than California. More than 2,000 convenience stores, neighborhood mini-marts, and gas stations – near schools, churches, and in high crime areas – will sell hard liquor, until 2 am. More consumption means more drunk driving, more underage drinking, and more crime. Using California's rate of binge drinking as an example we can expect 40,000 more irresponsible drinkers in our state.

1105 Wipes Out All Liquor Taxes

1105 repeals *all state liquor taxes* and directs the legislature make up the difference with *new taxes*. That means more taxes on the middle class. We can't trust the Olympia politicians to get this right.

The current system generates \$350 million annually to pay for schools, health care, police, firefighters, and alcohol prevention. 1105 will eliminate all that revenue. The state has a huge budget shortfall -- now is not the time to make it worse.

1105 Puts Public Safety at Risk

Washington currently ranks #1 nationally in keeping hard liquor away from minors, but private outlets like mini-marts are 400% more likely to sell alcohol to minors according to Liquor Control Board data. Let's not make it easier for kids and drunk drivers to get liquor.

The Washington State Council of Firefighters, Washington Association of Churches, law enforcement leaders and community leaders agree: Vote *no* on I-1105.

Rebuttal of Statement Against

Initiative 1105 is clear. It will "generate at least the same annual revenue for the state and local jurisdictions as under the current state control system, as well as at least an additional one hundred million dollars."

That's more money for local firefighters, police officers, and teachers in our neighborhoods.

Vote yes on I-1105 to responsibly get the state out of the liquor business and let qualified businesses in the private sector sell spirits safely.

Statement Prepared By

Jack Rabourn, Former Washington State Liquor Control Board Member; **Al O'Brien**, State Representative, former Criminal Justice Committee Chairman; **Ken Oplinger**, Bellingham/Whatcom Chamber of Commerce & Industry President; **Tom Pierson**, Federal Way Chamber of Commerce CEO; **Po Chang**, President of Summa Foods; **Charlie James**, African American Business and Employment Activist and Columnist.

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Rebuttal of Statement For

The big corporations funding this initiative have gone too far. 1105 harms community services, costs taxpayers and cost jobs. It eliminates enforcement funding for underage purchases and all liquor taxes and leaves it to the legislature to make up the difference. An independent analysis found that 1105 will *reduce* revenue by over \$700 million, slashing funding from schools and public safety. That's why small businesses, teachers, and law enforcement leaders say: 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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