

American Council on Alcohol Problems

Resolution on the U.S. Postal Service's Proposal to Deliver Beer, Wine and Spirits

Whereas, Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe announced Aug. 1, 2013 that the United States Postal Service could raise as much as \$50 million a year by delivering beer, wine and spirits; and...

Whereas, the United States Postal Service lost \$16 billion last year and is desperate for any revenue producing initiatives, seemingly no matter what the social or health consequences; and...

Whereas, the idea of changing federal law to permit the delivery of alcohol by the United States Postal Service is already being entertained in the halls of the U.S. Senate, where lawmakers last year passed a postal reform bill that included a provision allowing such deliveries as long as recipients were at least 21 years of age and shipments did not violate the laws of the state of origin or delivery; and...

Whereas, the purchase and possession of alcohol by people under age 21 is illegal in all 50 states; and...

Whereas, employees of the United States Postal Service are not trained to determine whether a driver's license or other photo identification card is authentic and therefore would be unable to verify that a recipient of alcohol is of legal age; and...

Whereas, studies show that more than 40 percent of high school students reported drinking alcohol within the last 30 days, proving the resourcefulness of young people when it comes to acquiring alcohol illegally; and...

Whereas, greater access to alcohol typically generates greater consumption levels; and...

Whereas, a report released by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in August 2013 shows excessive alcohol use costs our nation some \$225 billion annually; and ...

Whereas, alcohol use and abuse is responsible for an average of 80,000 deaths and 2.3 million years of potential life lost in the United States each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control; and ...

Whereas, evidence shows that the social cost of making alcohol more accessible always outweighs any revenue it generates; therefore...

Be it Resolved the American Council on Alcohol Problems (ACAP) implores the United States Postal Service to refrain from requesting federal approval to deliver beer, wine and spirits to the American public, seeking instead innovative and positive initiatives to make itself a solvent and thriving business that can benefit, rather than deliver harm to society; and

Be it Further Resolved that ACAP strongly encourages members of the United States House and the United States Senate to be ever mindful of their role as guardians of the nation's health and welfare and, in so doing, to defeat any measure that would include a provision to allow alcohol delivery by the United States Postal Service.