



Michigan Council on Alcohol Problems
Michigan Interfaith Council on Alcohol Problems

MICAP / MADIIF

American Alcohol and Drug Information Foundation

P.O. Box 10212, Lansing, MI 48901

(517) 999-0013

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**House Regulatory Reform Committee,
State of Michigan**

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

I represent the Michigan Council on Alcohol Problems, better known as MICAP. We are a 501 (c)(3) Non-Profit TEMPERANCE organization. We are also against extending hours of sales of beverage alcohol in its several venues (bars, restaurants, and stores) which is the primary purpose of HB 4213. Therefore, we are asking you to turn down HB 4213 for the following reasons:

1. The publishers of The Community Guide, after much study suggest that extending sales hours of beverage alcohol is one of the three top **causes of excessive drinking**. Especially during this COVID-19 Pandemic, when our own Michigan Liquor Control Commission has warned our Citizenry to be cautious about excessive drinking, we ought not be encouraging that by extending hours of sales.
2. The "POLICY BRIEF" about "Hours of Sales" by Michigan's recent Alcohol Epidemiologist Patrick Hindman is familiar to all on your committee. He cites that excessive alcohol consumption is the cause of **increased vehicular crashes, ER admissions, deaths, and violence as well as an increase in alcohol-related assault and injury**.
3. None of the State-Wide **law enforcement groups** want the Legislature to adopt HB 44213.
4. Service Workers, many of whom begin work at 5:00 AM, 5:30 AM, and 6:00 AM will be headed to work (Yes, some drive up to 2 hours to get to their place of employment) would face the **increased challenge of avoiding inebriated drivers** if HB 4213 becomes law.
5. **No contiguous states** (Indiana, Ohio, or Wisconsin) **have 4:00 AM sales hours** so the Industry's concern about not being able to compete is NOT a reason to adopt HB 4213. Likewise, Ontario, whose Sales Hours remain at 2:00 AM, adopted their 2:00 AM sales limit to compete with Michigan's when we adopted our 2:00 AM limit some years ago.

Please See Next Page

As said before, MICAP is not a Prohibition Group. But we recognize that Beverage Alcohol is no ordinary commodity like milk or apple juice. It is a legal drug which needs to be controlled very carefully. Therefore, we are urging the House Regulatory Reform Committee to turn down HB 4213 because of the "excesses" it will foster.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this and your refusal to move HB 4213 forward.

Sincerely,

Bill A.

Rev. W. J. (Bill) Amundsen,
Board Member and Treasurer,
Michigan Council on Alcohol Problems (MICAP)