

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-27

RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE INITIATIVES 1100 AND 1105.

WHEREAS, the state of Washington and its cities and counties are experiencing deep budget cuts and loss of funds for many vital programs including human services, public safety and education; and

WHEREAS, the net return of state controlled liquor sales in fiscal year 2009 was \$332.7 million which is used to support prevention programs, law enforcement support, affordable health care coverage and health benefits for children and pregnant women, and many other related programs and services; and

WHEREAS, the independent Office of Financial Management has determined that under I-1105 the state is likely to lose \$500 million from the general fund and city and county localities will lose \$200 million; and

WHEREAS, the independent Office of Financial Management has determined that under I-1100 the state is likely to lose \$85 million from the general fund and city and county localities will lose \$192 million; and

WHEREAS, studies show alcohol consumption is 5% - 20% percent less in states with controlled systems like Washington, as compared to states like California where liquor sales are privatized; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Liquor Control Board has a 94% no-sale-to-minors compliance rate which is the highest in the nation; and

WHEREAS, small businesses – especially in rural areas of the state - will suffer because they will not be able to compete against big box stores if sale of liquor is privatized; and

WHEREAS, at a time when many Washingtonians are suffering from loss of jobs during this recessionary time, privatizing liquor stores would unnecessarily put both private and public livable wage jobs at stake; and

WHEREAS, deregulation would eliminate jobs, hurt families' financial stability, and increase the pressure on unemployment funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bellingham will lose revenue estimated to be \$971,043.19 in 2010 from its general fund; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bellingham's general fund supports basic municipal services, chief among which are police and fire protection, municipal court, public parks, the public library and local community and economic development."

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM:

City of Bellingham
City Attorney
210 Lottie Street
Bellingham, Washington 98225
360-778-8270

They do hereby vote to oppose Initiatives 1100 and 1105 to privatize liquor stores in the state of Washington and further urge all residents of the city of Bellingham do the same.

PASSED by the Council this _____ day of _____, 2010.

Council President

APPROVED by me this _____ day of _____, 2010.

Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Finance Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Office of the City Attorney

City of Bellingham
City Attorney
210 Lottie Street
Bellingham, Washington 98225
360-778-8270