

10/11/10

VANCOUVER, WA

RESOLUTION NO. M-3726

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Vancouver, Washington, expressing its collective position, opposing Initiatives 1100 and 1105.

WHEREAS, Initiatives 1100 and 1105, which will be presented to the voters in November, seek to close state liquor stores and privatize the sale and distribution of liquor; and

WHEREAS, each of the measures has different effective dates and different impacts to state and local government revenue; and

WHEREAS, passage of both measures would create significant legal uncertainty and may require legislative action and/or resolution by the courts; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver currently receives approximately \$2 million per year from liquor taxes and Liquor Board profits; and

WHEREAS, the City is facing a \$10 million budget reduction in 2011 with deficits projected for future years;

WHEREAS, the additional loss of \$2 million per year will further exacerbate the City's financial situation and further constrain the provision of services by the City to its citizens; and

WHEREAS, although alcoholic beverages are a legal commodity for certain members of the population, there are significant impacts to law enforcement and the community as a whole that result from misuse and excess use of alcohol which will likely

increase with the greater availability of alcohol should these Initiatives be approved by the voters; and

WHEREAS, in attempting to deal with chronic inebriation in it's downtown, the City has spent significant time and effort in successfully establishing an Alcohol Impact Area by obtaining voluntary compliance from vendors in prohibiting the sale of certain types of low cost, high alcohol content beverages; and

WHEREAS, the passage of either or both of these Initiatives will allow every business, whether it is a grocery store, convenience store or mini-mart that currently sells wine and beer, to sell hard liquor, which will not only adversely affect the City's Alcohol Impact Area, but may also contribute to increased risk of underage and problem drinking.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VANCOUVER:

Section 1. The City Council expresses its collective position and opposes Initiatives 1100 and 1105 for the reasons set forth above.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect and be in full force upon passage.

ADOPTED at a special session of the Council of the City of Vancouver this _____ day of October, 2010.

Timothy D. Leavitt, Mayor

Attest:

R. Lloyd Tyler, City Clerk
By: Carrie Lewellen, Deputy City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Ted H. Gathe, City Attorney

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