There’s a Reason Why So Many Oppose Privatization

Undercover sting operations in New York City makes it plain why so many public health, safety and faith-based groups oppose privatizing the PLCB: it puts kids at risk. Consider:

“Under-age decoy buyers were able to purchase alcohol at more than half of the hundreds of pharmacies, grocery stores and liquor stores in New York City that the State Liquor Authority targeted in an undercover investigation last year,” The New York Times, May 3, 2015.

“Investigators caught hundreds of city stores selling booze to underage kids, officials said. The State Liquor Authority sent decoys who were under 21 to 911 grocery stores, pharmacies and liquor stores across the five boroughs — and 58% of them sold alcohol to the underage investigators,” The New York Daily News, May 3, 2015.

The list of public health and safety groups organizations who have opposed privatization include:

- Mothers Against Drunk Driving
- PA Professional Firefighters
- PA Chiefs of Police
- PA Fraternal Order of Police
- Drug and Alcohol Service Providers Organization of Pennsylvania
- The Commonwealth Prevention Alliance
- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control **
- The PA DUI Association
- Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)
- Pennsylvanians Concerned About Alcohol Problems
- Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals

** The Centers for Disease Control’s Task Force on Community Preventive Services has recommended against the further privatization of the retail sale of alcohol because privatizing alcohol sales leads to increased consumption and increased excessive consumption.

See a full list of groups opposed to liquor privatization in PA below:
Dozens of organizations have opposed privatization because it risks public safety; would put 5,000 Pennsylvanians out of work and jeopardize more than $565 million in state, including:

- The PA DUI Association
- Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)
- Pennsylvanians Concerned About Alcohol Problems
- United Methodist Advocacy of Pennsylvania
- Pennsylvania Woman’s Christian Temperance Union
- Pennsylvania NAACP
- Pennsylvania Association of School Nurses and Practitioners
- Pittsburgh Interfaith Impact Network
- Malt Beverage Distributors Association
- PA Beer Alliance
- United Food Commercial Workers Union
- Independent State Store Union
- Coalition of Labor Engaged for Accountable Revenue (CLEAR)
- The Better Choices Coalition
- PA AFL-CIO
- AFSCME District Council 47
- AFSCME Council 13
- PSEA
- PA Professional Firefighters
- SEIU
- APSCUF
- PTA
- AFT Pennsylvania
- PA Food Merchants Association
- PA Police Chiefs Association
- PA Convenience Store Council
- Mark Anthony Brands
- Commonwealth License Beverage Association
- The Brewers of Pennsylvania
- Mercer County Commissioners
- Philadelphia City Council
- Erie City Council
- The Council of Islamic Organizations of Pennsylvania
- Pittsburgh Interfaith Impact Network
- The Philadelphia Unemployment Project