



North Dakota Senate

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Mr. Chairman and members of the IBL Committee, SB 2220 is a bill brought forward with the intention of helping one of the most negatively impacted industries due to Covid, the service industry. This bill effectively changes the hours a business can sell alcohol on Sunday from 11 AM to 8 AM, which matches every other day of the week.

Through discussions with many bar and restaurant owners in my district, they are looking for any opportunity stay viable in an industry that has seen many businesses close their doors this past year. These businesses were demonized in the court of public opinion as super spreaders, these businesses had occupancy restrictions, and our government also restricted these businesses hours of operation. The 10 PM closure time may have been the most detrimental to many of these businesses in my district and state. Some businesses lost four hours of business a day and up to twenty-hours each week.

This bill simply is giving businesses an opportunity to sell alcohol for an additional 3 hours a week. Just 3 hours. It shows our service industry that we're looking to give them another tool in the toolbox, and it doesn't cost the state a dime.

However, Mr. Chairman, bars and restaurants aren't the only industries that benefit by the passage of SB 2220.

- Golf courses
- Curling Clubs
- Convenience Stores/Liquor Stores

Mr. Chairman this is about letting our businesses decide when they want to be open and having the market help guide them. It's a very simple bill, and it gives one of our most negatively impacted industries another opportunity to succeed.

I ask for a Do Pass recommendation and stand for any questions.