

HOW YOU CAN HELP STOP "AT REST"

The Stakes are very HIGH. Please contact your Senator and Assembly member to tell them you oppose "At Rest." The Procedure is quick and simple.

To find your Assembly member, go the website <http://www.nysenate.gov/senators>. Type in your address and zip code under **"FIND MY SENATOR"** and hit submit. Fill out the online form with your information (ignoring the drop down box), type "At Rest" in the Subject Line and either craft your own statement or feel free to enter the paragraph below.

To find your Assembly member, go to the website <http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/>. In the **MEMBER SEARCH** box on the right side of the page, hit Search. Enter your street address, city and zip code and Submit. It will then return your Assembly member's name and district with a link to their site. Navigate to their site, find their email address and create an email with your own statement or again feel free to enter the paragraph below.

Dear Senator/Assembly member,

It has come to my attention that two large wine & spirit wholesaler, and the teamsters that work for them, are lobbying you to pass "At Rest" legislation in the form of bills S 3849 in the Senate and A 5125 in the Assembly. They are claiming "At Rest" will create revenue for the State. But, as a licensed small business that buys from many wine distributors, I do not agree that it would create revenue. Instead, I believe that "At Rest" would result in hundreds of closed businesses, including both wholesalers and retailers, and at least a thousand unemployed New Yorkers. As such the State would lose hundreds of millions in taxable revenues from passing this bill. The volume of wine sold in the State (and the accompanying beverage excise tax revenue) would severely decrease. Consumer selection would be limited and the price of wine would escalate with the costs inevitably passed on to the consumer. Moreover, the ancillary effects of the resultant higher unemployment, lower sales and income tax revenues collected, would further exacerbate the current economic position of the state, not improve it. With the above in mind, I urge you NOT to vote for "At Rest" either in legislation or in the budget language.

It could be the difference between having the multi-billion dollar NY wine and liquor industry controlled by a single Goliath oligopoly. And while the forces behind this oligopoly claim "At Rest" will be a job creator, it is clear as night that **it is a job KILLER for New York, as literally hundreds of small distributors based in New York, who employ thousands of New Yorkers, could be forced to shutter their doors.**

Thank you for your support on this critical issue!