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Senate of Pennsylvania

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January 11, 2011

TO: All Senators
FROM: Senator Kim Ward
SUBJECT: Co-Sponsorship of Legislation – Amend definition of “case”– **Memo #5**

I plan to re-introduce legislation to amend the Liquor Code to define “case” as “any configuration of original container totaling forty-two or more fluid ounces of malt or brewed beverages, which may be shipped by the manufacturer in units containing more than one case and then broken down into a package of six or more original container, each holding seven fluid ounces or more prior to sale by a distributor or importing distributors.”

This legislation gives consumers expanded choices and the option to try different products. In addition, Pennsylvania brewers will greatly benefit because of the increased outlets for their products. Permitting six-pack sales in a controlled environment is the best way to assure that minors do not gain access to alcohol while expanding consumer choice and convenience. Further, Pennsylvania will receive more tax revenue because distributors collect sales tax on the retail price of beer they sell to consumers, while other licensees collect the tax based on the wholesale price. Beer distributors are small, locally owned businesses who provide jobs and taxes for their communities. This legislation will enable them to stay in business and keep those jobs and tax revenues in Pennsylvania.

Co-sponsors of last session’s Senate Bill 1133 include: Senator Fontana and Senator Earll.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Tiffany Price in my office at 717-787-6063 or by email at tprice@pasen.gov.

KLW/vjw