



Senate of Pennsylvania

Senator Larry Farnese

1st Senatorial District

MEMO

Date: *February 18, 2011*
To: *All Senators*
From: *Senator Lawrence M. Farnese, Jr.*
Subject: *Co-sponsorship – Direct Mail Wine Sales*

In the near future, I plan to introduce SB 454 of the 2009-2010 Legislative Session.

A US Supreme court ruling in 2005 decided that the states could not treat out-of-state wineries differently than in-state wineries regarding their ability to ship directly to residents. This effectively rendered Pennsylvania's shipping laws unconstitutional. However, Pennsylvania has not yet addressed this inequity to bring our state shipping laws into compliance with the Granholm decision.

This legislation would address the inequity by allowing Pennsylvania consumers to purchase wine through direct mail from any winery (in-state and out-of-state) that has the capability to ship directly. All wineries must be issued a direct wine shipper license in order to ship directly to consumers. The bill is meant to expand consumer choice while still enabling Pennsylvania wineries to maintain their ability to sell direct to consumers, which makes up a considerable amount of sales for many of them.

Last session, the bill was co-sponsored by Senators Ferlo, Fontana, Stout, Erickson, Boscola, Baker, Earll, Vance, Wonderling, Washington, M. White and Leach.

If you are interested in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact Brandie Pifer at 717-787-5662 or bpifer@pasenate.com. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Sally Keaveney at skeaveney@pasenate.com.