

Initiative to the Legislature No. 13

BALLOT TITLE

AN ACT prohibiting the retail sale of beer and wine by any person other than the State of Washington, repealing all provisions of existing law pertaining to licensing of retail sale of beer and wine, revoking existing licenses and providing penalties.

AN ACT repealing all provisions for licenses for the sale of beer and wine to be consumed on the premises, or at retail, and revoking such licenses in existence on the effective date of the Act; making the sale of wine and beer to be consumed on the premises, or at retail, a felony and providing punishment therefor; declaring an emergency and that the Act take effect immediately.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Intention.* Experience in the State of Washington has shown that the attempt to handle beer and wine on a different basis than that used in handling of other liquor is not successful, and that the evils consequent thereon are greater than any possible benefits to be derived therefrom. It is therefore declared to be the intention of this measure to eliminate all taverns or beer parlors in the State of Washington, and to stop the consumption of beer and wine on the premises where sold, and to have beer and wine sold at retail only as other liquor is sold under the terms and provisions of the Washington State Liquor Act (Chapter 62 of the Laws of the Extraordinary Session of 1933) as now amended.

SEC. 2. *Liberal Construction.* This entire Act shall be deemed the exercise of the police power of the State of Washington for the protection of the welfare, health, peace, morals, and safety of the people of the State, and all its provisions shall be liberally construed for the accomplishment of that purpose.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, the meaning to be given to the various terms used shall be the definitions thereof set forth in the Washington State Liquor Act (Chapter 62 of

the Laws of the Extraordinary Session of 1933) as now amended.

SEC. 4. All provisions of the Washington State Liquor Act (Chapter 62 of the Laws of the Extraordinary Session of 1933) as now amended, relative to the licensing of the sale of beer or wine to be consumed on the premises where sold, or the sale thereof at retail, are hereby repealed, and from and after the effective date of this Act, beer and wine shall be sold at retail only as other liquor is sold under the terms and provisions of the Washington State Liquor Act (Chapter 62 of the Laws of the Extraordinary Session of 1933) as now amended. All licenses now in effect relating to the sale of beer or wine to be consumed on the premises where sold, or at retail, are revoked as of the effective date of this Act.

SEC. 5. Any person, other than the State of Washington, acting through the Washington State Liquor Control Board and its employees, selling beer or wine for consumption on the premises where sold, or at retail, after the effective date of this Act shall be guilty of a felony, and shall be punished by imprisonment in the State penitentiary for not more than five years, or by imprisonment in the County jail for not more than one year.

SEC. 6. All acts or parts of acts in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SEC. 7. If any section or provision of this Act shall be adjudged to be invalid, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the Act as a whole or any section, provision, or part thereof not adjudged to be invalid.

SEC. 8. This Act is necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the promotion of the public welfare and the support of the State Government and its existing institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

STATE OF WASHINGTON—SS.

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State August 23, 1946.

ARGUMENT FOR INITIATIVE TO THE LEGISLATURE NO. 13

(1) **A vote for Initiative No. 13 is a vote to close the taverns and transfer the sale of beer and wine to the State Liquor stores where hard liquor is now sold.** This would more effectively control an increasingly harmful situation.

(2) **Unquestionably taverns are a menace.** They are the breeding places for immorality, crime and youth delinquency. Read the stories (of tavern-centered tragedy) in your own newspapers. Quarrels — fights — broken homes — unattended children — drunken men, women, juveniles — drunken driving. The taverns of today are far worse than the old time saloons ever were.

(3) **A tavern is an economic liability to any community.**

- a. It reduces the value of adjoining property. No respectable business wants a tavern next door.
- b. The average tavern patron is a poor credit risk.
- c. Money spent in taverns is largely lost to essential business.

(4) **Liquor interests term the tavern the "poor man's club."** A "Club" which exploits the weaknesses of its members, making them "poorer," physically, financially, mentally and morally, is indeed a "poor" club for any person.

(5) **Employment conditions will be greatly improved** by the passage of No. 13. Tavern workers temporarily unemployed will be quickly absorbed in more respectable work. Reputable concerns occupying buildings vacated by taverns will increase rather than decrease employment. Buildings va-

cated when 12 taverns were recently voted out near 63rd and Kimbark in Chicago, were immediately occupied by other concerns.

(6) **Tavern operators claim that No. 13 would cause a loss of tax income to the State.** Authoritative sources reveal that it is costing our State, county and city governments more than twice as much to control and regulate the tavern and care for its victims, as the revenue received through beer and wine taxation.

(7) **Some will say that the passage of No. 13 would increase bootlegging.** This is not true! It is estimated that 18,000,000 gallons of bootleg liquor were made in the United States last year. The Federal Government has caught from 15,000 to 20,000 bootleggers a year during the past sixteen years, according to Ethel Hubler in the National Voice. **Initiative No. 13, which would make beer and wine available in State Liquor stores,** would tend to discourage bootlegging.

A day of decision is at hand. The taverns have sinned away their day of grace. No longer will the voters of the State of Washington tolerate these establishments which disgrace men, women and children, and undermine and sabotage the welfare of the people of this State.

Close the Taverns! Strengthen the Steele Act! Protect our Homes and Youth!

Cut the Cost of Law Enforcement and Crime!

Vote FOR Initiative No. 13.

Washington Temperance Association
M. A. Marcy, President
H. L. Patchett, Secretary

STATE OF WASHINGTON—ss.

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State June 25, 1948.

EARL COE,
Secretary of State.

The Prohibitionists' Measure

Initiative 13 is a measure sponsored by the Prohibitionists. To get a clearer idea of their real purpose, read the "Ballot Title" on a preceding page. It starts out:

"AN ACT prohibiting the retail sale of beer and wine. . . ." and that word "prohibiting" is the key to the Prohibitionists' scheme. They are trying to trick you into Prohibition, step by step.

Drastic First Step Toward Prohibition

Initiative 13 is the first step. The Prohibitionists would FORBID the sale of beer and wine—not only in taverns, but also in restaurants and grocery stores. Not a single glass of beer could legally be sold in the state of Washington!

ISN'T THAT A DRASTIC STEP TOWARD FULL PROHIBITION?

Prohibition's Evils Again

What would the results be? The same as they were during national Prohibition. With sales of beer and wine forbidden everywhere except in state stores, speakeasies would spring up—followed by the bootlegger, the racketeer, the gangster, and all the vile crew who thrived on the illegal trades of Prohibition days.

And why?—only because the Prohibitionists believe it should be illegal to buy a friendly glass of beer!

The alternative to the legal, licensed, regulated tavern is the illegal dive—the filthy back-alley speakeasy and the isolated country road house.

There's more to the Prohibitionists' scheme, too. If they put over Initiative 13, the resulting crime, gangsterism and corruption would, they hope, discredit the entire present system in the state of Washington, and make their final step, complete Prohibition, so much easier.

Opposed by Sheriffs, Veterans Labor

This is what the sheriffs of the state say:

"Initiative 13 . . . would result in the springing up of speakeasies, bootleggers, . . . would generally foster lawlessness and result in increased sales to minors through illegal sources, just as similar restrictive measures did during Prohibition."

—Washington State Sheriffs Association; resolution passed at their state convention at Everett, June 4, 1948

This is what the Veterans of Foreign Wars say:

"Many thousands of jobs for veterans are directly and indirectly involved . . . If the present, legal sale of beer and wine by licensed retail outlets is forbidden, the inevitable result will be speakeasies, bootleggers; . . . the Veterans of Foreign Wars condemn this effort to cause a return to Prohibition conditions, and to curtail personal liberties."

—Veterans of Foreign Wars; resolution passed at their annual state encampment at Tacoma, June 26, 1948

This is what the Washington Federation of Labor says:

"Initiative 13 would do worse than cause unemployment. It would force many members of the A.F.L. to work in speakeasies, bootleg joints and other crooked businesses. It would mean the loss of their membership cards because of union rules denying membership to persons engaged in illegal sale of liquors."

—E. M. Weston, President, Washington State Federation of Labor, in an address at Spokane, June 11, 1948

Serious Effect on the State

These are the most serious effects of Initiative 13—but there are also others. The beer and wine industry provides jobs directly for 14,000 persons in the state—jobs with an annual payroll of \$35,000,000. It pays taxes of nearly 22 million dollars a year. It is a Washington business, buying more than \$52,000,000 a year in Washington products.

And why are the Prohibitionists bent on passing Initiative 13?—because they in their intolerance would deny every citizen of our state the privilege of a friendly glass of beer!

DON'T BE TRICKED INTO PROHIBITION!

Vote AGAINST Initiative 13!

"Sweet Land of Liberty"



VOTE AGAINST INITIATIVE 13

ELEY P. DENSON
Brig. Gen., Retired, Seattle

E. M. WESTON
President, Washington State Federation
of Labor

STATE OF WASHINGTON—ss.

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EARL COE,
Secretary of State.