



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Affairs Democrats Vote to Support Restaurants and Bars, Protect Lottery

MADISON-- The Assembly Committee on State Affairs held an executive session yesterday to vote on [Assembly Bill 32](#) and [Assembly Bill 28](#). Committee members approved both bills unanimously.

AB 32 permits establishments with a “Class B” license to sell intoxicating liquor by the glass for consumption away from the premises, so long as drinks are sealed with tamper-evident seals. The bill received overwhelming support from Wisconsin’s restaurant and bar owners as well as trade groups, including the Wisconsin Restaurant Association and the U.S. Distilled Spirits Council.

AB 28 expands the definition of a “multijurisdictional” lottery to include nations and countries beyond the U.S. and Canada so Wisconsin can continue to participate in Powerball after it extends to Australia and the United Kingdom this August. The money generated from Powerball provides property tax relief for Wisconsin residents. Wisconsin Department of Revenue Secretary Peter Barca and Lottery Director Polzin both testified in favor of AB 28.

The committee’s ranking Democratic member, Rep. Christine Sinicki (D-Milwaukee), said “I am so glad that the first actions we were able to take in the State Affairs Committee this session were bipartisan bills that will provide much needed relief to Wisconsin small businesses.”

Rep. Sondy Pope (D-Mt. Horeb) went on to say, “The effects of COVID-19 on Wisconsin’s hospitality industry have been devastating. We need to take this urgent action to support our restaurants and taverns.”

“These businesses, often family owned, are economic linchpins in our communities—as are their hardworking employees.” Rep. Tip McGuire (D-Kenosha) pointed out.

“It’s great to see AB 28 pass unanimously as well. With Wisconsin being tied as the fourth winningest state for Powerball, it’s important that our state remains able to sell Powerball tickets which provide benefits to retailers, property owners, and, of course, the winners,” Rep. Ohnstad added.

AB 28 is scheduled to be voted upon by the full Assembly on Tuesday, February 16. AB 32 awaits scheduling for a full vote of the Assembly.

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