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Paul M. Ziehler

City Admin. Officer, Clerk/Treasurer

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Assistant City Clerk

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Treasurer's Office Supervisor

June 16, 2009

The Honorable Mayor Dan Devine
and Members of the Common Council
7525 W. Greenfield Avenue
West Allis, WI 53214

Dear Mayor Devine and Common Council Members:

Attached is a letter that has been prepared for consideration by the Common Council at the June 16, 2009 Common Council Meeting. The letter is being directed to Governor Doyle, the State of Wisconsin Joint Finance Committee, and the state legislators representing West Allis for its consideration. Upon your approval, the letter will be signed by Mayor Dan Devine, Common Council President Sengstock and License & Health Committee Chair Czaplewski and transmitted accordingly, with copies to the Wisconsin League of Municipalities and the Wisconsin Alliance of Cities.

Sincerely,

Paul M. Ziehler
City Administrative Officer
Clerk/Treasurer

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June 16, 2009

The Honorable Jim Doyle, Governor of Wisconsin
The Honorable Members of the Joint Committee on Finance
The Honorable Jim Sullivan, State Senate
The Honorable Anthony J. Staskunas
The Honorable Leah Vukmir

RE: Motion #743-31, Beer and Wine Provided by a Non-Profit During Fundraising Events

Dear Sir or Madam:

In response to Motion #743-31, please note that the Common Council of the City of West Allis opposes non-profit organizations providing beer or wine free of charge during a fundraiser event without requiring the organization to hold a municipal license.

Municipal control of the licensing process allows local officials to be informed of when and where events with alcohol are planned. We have concerns with regard to police and fire services and public safety. We have concerns relative to control factors such as prohibiting unaccompanied underage persons on the premises, licensing and training requirements for an operator, and closing times for these types of events. We have concerns about the possible proliferation of unlicensed activity involving alcohol if non-profit organizations do not require licensing.

The City of West Allis exercises due diligence during the alcohol licensing process. There are numerous rules and regulations that must be followed. Deregulation of the licensing for non-profit organizations sends the wrong message. Local governance of the laws related to alcohol sales and alcohol consumption is taken very seriously in the City of West Allis.

We hope and trust you will reconsider your initial action regarding this amendment when it comes time to voting on the budget.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Dan Devine in blue ink.

Dan Devine
Mayor of West Allis

Handwritten signature of James W. Sengstock in blue ink.

James W. Sengstock
Common Council President

Handwritten signature of Michael J. Czaplewski in blue ink.

Michael J. Czaplewski
License & Health Committee Chair

cc: Wisconsin Alliance of Cities
Wisconsin League of Municipalities