

## **SB247 Puts Public Health at Risk**

The Community Preventive Services Task Force reviewed the literature on extending the hours of alcohol sales. In February 2009 the task force recommended maintaining limits on hours of alcohol sale in on-premises settings, based on sufficient evidence of effectiveness for reducing excessive alcohol consumption and related harms.

- Ten studies qualified for the review. These studies reported on six events that changed the hours of alcohol sales by two or more hours. Studies were conducted in Australia (6 studies of 4 events), England (3 studies of 1 event), and Iceland (1 study of 1 event). **Extending hours of sale by 2 to 4 hours was associated with:**
  - An increase in alcohol consumption (1 study, Australia)
  - A relative increase in motor vehicle crash injuries ranging from 4% to 11% (2 studies, Australia)
  - A shift in timing of motor vehicle crashes corresponding to the change in closing time of the outlet (1 study, Australia)
  - Removing restrictions on hours of sale, i.e., allowing sales of alcohol 24 hours a day or allowing outlets to stay open to any hour, was associated with:
    - An increase in motor vehicle crash injuries (1 study, Australia)
    - An increase in emergency room admissions, injuries, fighting, and suspected driving while intoxicated (1 study, Iceland)
    - An increase in alcohol-related assault and injury (1 study, England)
    - A decrease in violent crime offenses (1 study, England)
    - A decrease in maxillofacial trauma (1 study, England)

**When the task force studied increasing hours of sale by less than two hours in on-premises settings (e.g., bars and restaurants) they found the following:**

- Effect estimates from these studies were inconsistent, suggesting no substantial effect on alcohol-related outcomes of changes in hours of alcohol sales that are less than two hours.

Six studies qualified for the review. These studies reported on five events that changed the hours of alcohol sales by less than two hours. Studies were conducted in Australia (2 studies of 2 events), Scotland (2 studies of 1 event), England and Wales (1 study of 1 event), and Canada (1 study of 1 event).

All of these results were based on a systematic review of all available studies, conducted on behalf of the Task Force by a team of specialists in systematic review methods, and in research, practice and policy related to excessive alcohol consumption.

This document was created by information from [www.thecommunityguide.org](http://www.thecommunityguide.org). For more information about this topic visit: <http://www.thecommunityguide.org/alcohol/limitinghourssale.html>



**Michigan Alcohol Policy Promoting Health & Safety**

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## Additional Reasons MAP Opposes SB247

- **SB247 is unnecessary and this would put an additional burden on law enforcement and other emergency services.**
- **Many bars and restaurants would not get the permit and in those areas, young drinkers may be more likely to drive farther distances to drink until 4 a.m. After closing the bar, drinkers will have to travel back to their home towns.**
- **The heaviest drinkers will continue to drink longer with bars being open until 4 a.m.**
- **People working earlier in the morning may be at higher risk of getting hit by a drunk driver.**
- **SB247 will increase the likelihood that Governor Snyder's dashboard on excessive alcohol consumption will increase. Currently Michigan ranks 25<sup>th</sup>. We could do better than that! Below are the rates of the dashboard from 2009-2012.**
  - 2009 - 5.2%
  - 2010 - 5.4%
  - 2011 - 7%
  - 2012 - 6.1%
- **If a casino receives the permit to extend hours it may encourage more problem gambling.**
- **There is no provision for local input or approval provided for in the bill.**
- **All the revenue raised through extended hours permits will not offset people getting shot, assaulted, raped, and killed and injured by drunk drivers.**



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