



## 2011 SENATE BILL 44

March 22, 2011 – Introduced by Senators GROTHMAN, LEIBHAM and COWLES, cosponsored by Representatives WYNN, KAUFERT, KRUG, LEMAHIEU, THIESFELDT, VAN ROY and ZIEGELBAUER. Referred to Committee on Judiciary, Utilities, Commerce, and Government Operations.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 125.32 (3) (b) and 125.68 (4) (b) of the statutes; **relating to:**  
2 closing hours for certain alcohol beverage retailers.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, with limited exceptions, no person may sell alcohol beverages to a consumer unless the seller possesses a license or permit authorizing the sale. A Class “A” license authorizes the retail sale of fermented malt beverages (beer), in original packages, for consumption off the licensed premises. A “Class A” license authorizes the retail sale of intoxicating liquor, including wine, in original packages, for consumption off the licensed premises. A retailer operating under a Class “A” license may not sell beer between midnight and 8:00 a.m., although a municipality may, by ordinance, impose more restrictive “closing hours” than these. “Class A” retail premises may not remain open for the sale of intoxicating liquor between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.

This bill changes the morning closing hours for Class “A” and “Class A” retailers from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m., so that a Class “A” retailer may sell beer from 6:00 a.m. until midnight unless the municipality in which it is located establishes more restrictive closing hours, and a “Class A” retailer may sell intoxicating liquor from 6:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.

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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

