

CLEAR COALITION

COALITION FOR LABOR ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABLE REVENUES

The CLEAR Coalition Statement on HB 11



HARRISBURG – (Dec. 12, 2011) The CLEAR Coalition is urging its 1.1 million members to contact their state House members and urge them to reject House Bill 11, a bill that jeopardizes thousands of family-sustaining jobs and hundreds of millions in state revenue needed to fund vital public services.



House Bill 11 was passed by the House Liquor Control Committee today after an amendment that changes the way beer and wine is sold in PA was approved. The legislation would allow beer distributors, restaurants, taverns and up to 10,000 retail outlets the ability to sell wine and cases of beer for off-premise consumption.



“We’re very happy that the Committee essentially gutted all of the original privatization language that was included in HB 11 but there is still a lot of work left to do,” said Dave Fillman, Executive Director of AFSCME Council 13 and Chair of the CLEAR Coalition. “The PLCB employs 5,000 Pennsylvanians, including 3,200 members of the United Food & Commercial Workers Union and 400 members of AFSCME. This bill puts every one of those jobs at risk.”



Fillman added, “We would urge House members to carefully consider the revenue implications of HB 11. We know that the PLCB generates more than \$500 million a year for the state. We know that wine sales account for roughly 45 percent of total sales. But we don’t know what impact HB 11 in this new form will have on revenue and sales.”



The CLEAR Coalition is committed to a sustainable budget that prevents harmful cuts to essential public services, saves jobs and makes taxes fairer.

