



# WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 26, 2021**

## **Cocktails-to-go Signed into Law**

**Madison, WI** – Today Representative David Steffen (R-Howard) and Senator Mary Felzkowski (R-Irma) will have their legislation [AB 32](#) signed into law. After passing unanimously out of both the Assembly Ways and Means Committee and on the State Assembly floor last week, this legislation is a huge win for Wisconsin.

This bi-partisan bill will allow restaurants and taverns with a Class B liquor license to sell mixed drinks with to-go orders. Businesses selling alcohol in accordance with this legislation will be required to do so with a tamper-evident seal.

Wisconsin has become the thirty-fourth state to enact legislation allowing restaurants to do so as a response to the pandemic, therefore providing them with an additional source of income. As a broadly supported bill, Cocktails-to-go has worked well in other states, without DUI related issues. This is likely one of the reasons MADD is not opposed to the bill.

"The restaurants and bars that I'm speaking with are really, really struggling," Rep. Steffen said. "If we want to retain them as an important part of our economy, our community, our culture here in Wisconsin, we can't let the speed of government be involved in this one. We need to move as quickly as possible."

With 20% of Wisconsin taverns and restaurants closed or on the verge of closing due to the pandemic, this industry should be a top priority for state relief. As noted by the restaurants and taverns that testified at the bill's public hearing, generating an additional \$30 - \$50 a day in revenue through Cocktails-to-go can make the difference between staying open or closing forever.

AB 32 will be enacted Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and will not interfere with existing alcohol related legislation in Wisconsin.

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