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# EDITORIALS

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## Allow Alcohol Sales On Sunday

Connecticut should join its neighbors by permitting package alcohol sales on Sundays. It's a matter of convenience, not of temperance. People won't drink more if package stores are open seven days a week.

But the package-store lobby has successfully bottled up attempts in the legislature to endorse Sunday sales. The so-called mom and pop stores argue that if Sunday sales are allowed, all of them will have to be open on Sunday to compete.

State Sen. Bill Finch of Bridgeport has introduced compromise legislation. His measure, backed by some beer and liquor trade organizations, would allow alcohol sales any six days of the week, including Sunday. That way, package store owners near the border with Massachusetts, for example, could be open on

Sunday to capture Connecticut business that otherwise would go to Bay State stores just over the line, but close on Monday or Tuesday or any lower-volume day of their choice. Those package store owners who wanted to stay closed on Sunday could do so.

There may be a religious reason for closing on Sunday, but that's not government's business. Allowing for Sunday sales of alcoholic beverages at stores on that day would give adult consumers more choice and convenience.

Although the General Law Committee killed the measure, proponents vow to resurrect it. Consumers should wish them success.

Seven-day-a-week sales would be best from the consumer standpoint. But "any six days" of the week sales is an acceptable compromise.