



# Malt Beverage Distributors Association of Pennsylvania

## Who We Are

MBDA is the trade association for Pennsylvania's 1300 beer distributors. Since 1936 we have provided valuable public information about Pennsylvania's beer distribution system to legislators, educators and consumers.

## How Pennsylvania Benefits

In 2010, Pennsylvania's beer industry employed nearly 36,000 Pennsylvanians with more than \$991 million in wages and over \$2.9 billion in overall economic impact. These businesses generated more than \$1.1 billion in personal, business and consumption taxes to federal, state and local governments.

## Why MBDA?

**We Offer Choice** – Pennsylvania's beer distributors represent hundreds of sources, from breweries on six continents to major national brands to craft and microbrewers. A typical distributor offers consumers more than 1,000 choices in the form of multiple brands, styles, sizes, packages and related snack and party supplies.

**We Protect Minors** – Beer distributors have decades of experience in preventing sales to minors, and have invested in the newest age verification equipment and practices. We train our employees to not sell to minors or intoxicated persons and we participate in such alcohol awareness and educational programs as RAMP, TIPS and We ID, among many others.

**We Encourage Responsibility** – Pennsylvania's beer distributors work closely with industry affiliates, enforcement agencies, churches, schools and advocacy groups to promote adult responsibility and fight underage drinking and alcohol abuse. MBDA members voluntarily ceased sales of alcoholic energy drinks such as Four Loco.

**We are Involved in Our Communities** – We are local, family-owned and operated businesses who give back to our communities. We sponsor a wide array of consumer-based groups, including local athletic teams, arts groups, medical benefit events, fairs, festivals, block parties, parades, youth groups, historical sites and events, and much, much more.

## A Critical Part of PA's 3-Tier System

Pennsylvania's beer distributors are a critical part of the state's three-tiered alcohol management system (brewers, distributors, taverns/restaurants). There is a beer distributorship within two miles of 90 percent of the state's residents.

## Our Legislative Goals

A key to consumer convenience would be a change in law to permit distributors to sell in less than case quantity. The advent of costlier and more upper-end micro-brews and imports dictate that consumers should be allowed to purchase less than a case. Consumer convenience within a control system can be achieved by offering consumers a one-stop shopping experience by allowing distributors to sell wine and spirits in addition to beer. Permitting distributors to become package stores maintains the existing number of alcohol sales outlets across the state.

*For more information:*

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