

Opinion

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Florida's alcohol laws are protecting minors

I am a guidance counselor at a high school here in Tallahassee, and an important concern I have is preventing underage use of alcohol. At a recent press conference with the Florida attorney general, the Florida Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking expressed its concern about underage alcohol use. Specifically, the coalition stressed the following points:

- Unrestricted out-of-state shipments of alcohol directly to homes will provide minors with greater access to alcohol.
- Florida's state rights are under attack by people wanting to sell alcohol over the Internet without regard to Florida law. This will open the door to unregulated alcohol sales and make it easier for children to obtain alcohol.
- Florida's alcohol laws are currently our best defense in protecting our communities and preventing minors from getting access to alcohol, and should not be changed.

I urge the *Tallahassee Democrat* to support these concerns by presenting unbiased information on this issue. Feel free to contact the Florida Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking for more information.

GERARD VERNOT

John Paul II Catholic High School
GVernot@jpiichs.org