

SENATE No. 169

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

William N. Brownsberger, (BY REQUEST)

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act restoring happy hour to the commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Jordan Lewis Michelson</i>	<i>46 Orkney Rd, Brighton MA 02135</i>
<i>Maxwell Black</i>	<i>41 Commonwealth Ave., Chestnut Hill, MA, 02467</i>
<i>James Hendren</i>	<i>5 Colliston Road, Brighton, MA 02135</i>
<i>Thomas Charpentier</i>	<i>86 Jersey Street, 41, Boston, MA 02215</i>
<i>Emily Smith</i>	<i>229 Kelton St. Allston, MA 02134</i>
<i>Evan Michelson</i>	<i>83 Herrick Rd. Newton, MA 02459</i>

SENATE No. 169

By Mr. Brownsberger (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 169) of Jordan Lewis Michelson, Maxwell Black, James Hendren, Thomas Charpentier and others for legislation to restore happy hour to the commonwealth. Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act restoring happy hour to the commonwealth.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 This Act negates the ban on “Happy Hour” in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
2 Happy Hour prohibitions have proven ineffective at deterring drunk driving and result in
3 economic deadweight loss to states, businesses, and consumers. Massachusetts remains one of
4 the last states with such a ban. This Act was composed by students at Boston College Law
5 School and uses language from the successful repeal of a similar Happy Hour ban in Illinois in
6 2015. Restoring Happy Hour to the Commonwealth will support local businesses, shift patronage
7 of bars and restaurants toward low-density hours, and benefit the public morale.

8 SECTION 1. Chapter 138 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
9 section 78 the following section:-

10 Section 79. A common victualler, or other person licensed under chapter one hundred
11 thirty-eight, section twelve, to serve alcoholic beverages, may discount any alcoholic beverages

12 during a specified time period if: the prices of alcoholic beverages are not changed during the
13 time that they are discounted; alcoholic beverages are not discounted between the hours of ten
14 o'clock postmeridian and the licensed establishment's closing hour; and notice of the discount of
15 the alcoholic beverages during a specified time is posted on the licensed premises or on the
16 licensee's publicly available website at least three days prior to the specified time. Authorized
17 persons may advertise events permitted under this statute.