

PROPOSED COAM LEGISLATION SENATE BILL 397

*By: David Jaffer & Peter Steckel
Jaffer Law, PC*

Last week, the Georgia Legislature discussed a bill that could take money out of your pocket!

Senate Bill 397, if passed, would change Georgia's current COAM legislation.

Among other things, this bill does the following:

- (1) Raises** the Georgia Lottery Corporation's **fee to 20%** (from the current 10%), and
- (2) Reduce the number of COAMs available per location to 3** (from the current 6 to 9 COAMs per location, depending on the local ordinance).

This bill would both take an extra 5% of your COAM revenue each month **and** reduce the number of COAM available to your customers in each location. If this passes, it would significantly reduce your COAM revenue, traditional lottery sales and your general merchandise and fuel sales. This legislation is not good for C-Stores owners and it is not good for Georgia.

Sponsors the bill believe that some location licensees are running "casinos" [their words, not ours] that are sucking the money out of poor neighborhoods.

What the GLC and sponsors of the bill need to know is that you are small business owners offering entertainment to your customers. COAMs generates revenue for your small business and it puts money back in the Georgia economy. Revenue generated from COAM activities benefits the children being educated in our colleges and universities systems by funding the HOPE scholarship and provides for other educational expenses

Georgia legislatures will meet again next week to discuss this bill further.

We will be there on your behalf and talk to our legislatures about the negative impact this bill would have on our industry.

Jaffer Law PC and United C-Stores will send you additional information after the meeting on Tuesday to discuss a Call to Action.

For more information contact David Jaffer at: djaffer@jafferlaw.com or call: United C-Stores at 678-691-3720.

UNITED C-STORES

3538 Habersham at Northlake, Building D

Tucker, GA 30087

Ph: 678-691-3720

Fx: 770-676-0717

www.unitedcstores.com