



In photo: State Reps. Ron Gray (sponsor), Ruth Briggs King (co-sponsor) & Jeff Spiegelman (co-sponsor) joined other officials at the Southern Delaware Tourism office Tuesday as Gov. John Carney signed House Bill 284 into law.

## **NEWS BRIEF:**

# **New Law May Reduce DUIs, Place Businesses on Equal Footing**

**JUNE 1, 2018** -- It is hoped a new law will modestly reduce drinking and driving on Delaware's roadways.

Signed by Gov. John Carney on Tuesday in Georgetown, [House Bill 284](#) now permits a broader range of businesses selling alcoholic beverages "for immediate consumption" to cap unfinished bottles and allow patrons to take them home.

Previously, the law allowed for the removal of unfinished bottles of wine or spirits from a hotel, restaurant, motorsports speedway, concert hall, beer garden, club, dinner theater or horse racetrack. The new legislation expands that universe to all "on-premises" licensees such as taprooms, farm wineries, brew pubs, multi-purpose sports facilities, and craft distilleries. It also requires the capping of the unused contents, which had previously not been mandated.

The law does not apply to beer.

Supporters of the measure, including prime sponsor State Rep. Ron Gray, R-Selbyville, say it removes an incentive that may have encouraged impaired driving and it levels the playing field for similar alcoholic beverage licensees.

The bill had bipartisan sponsorship and cleared the General Assembly with only a single dissenting vote.