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**Thanks for No Wine Tasting in Grocery Stores – *response to 1/26/12 MDJ story***

Dear Editor:

Thanks to Marietta citizens Joan Glover and Marty Heller for speaking out about proposed wine tasting in grocery store at recent Marietta City Council meeting. Thanks also to Mayor Tumlin and Marietta City Council for agreeing to uphold current city ordinance, which provides that businesses choose either a license to sell alcohol by the package or by the drink, but not both.

Despite what some people may believe, our alcohol regulatory system is not arbitrary - it grew out of lessons learned after the failure of Prohibition. Effective laws and ordinances balance business and public health and safety interests and are most effective when supported by citizens.

Everyone can help reduce alcohol related harms, and the Cobb Alcohol Taskforce wants to acknowledge evidence based enforcement, policy and education strategies that are helping. We'd like to say "way-to-go" Marietta! To learn more about how you can help, please visit us at [www.cobbat.org](http://www.cobbat.org).

Bonnie L. Brand, Board Chair  
Cobb Alcohol Taskforce