

California Alcohol Policy Alliance



Alcohol Justice
Alcohol-Narcotics Education Foundation
AADAP, Inc.
ADAPT San Ramon Valley
Bay Area Community Resources
Behavioral Health Services, Inc.
CA Council on Alcohol Problems
CASA for Safe & Healthy Neighborhoods
Center for Human Development
Center for Open Recovery
Eden Youth and Family Center
Institute for Public Strategies
FASD Network of Southern CA
FreeMUNI – SF
Friday Night Live Partnership
Koreatown Youth and Community Center
Laytonville Healthy Start
L.A. County Friday Night Live
L.A. Drug & Alcohol Policy Alliance
Lutheran Office of Public Policy –
California
MFI Recovery Center
Mountain Communities Family Resource
Center
National Asian Pacific American Families
Against Substance Abuse
Partnership for a Positive Pomona
Paso por Paso, Inc.
Project SAFER
Pueblo y Salud
Reach Out
San Marcos Prevention Coalition
San Rafael Alcohol & Drug Coalition
SF DogPAC
SAY San Diego
Saving Lives Drug &
Alcohol Coalition
South Orange County Coalition
Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc.
The Wall Las Memorias Project
UCEPP Social Model Recovery Systems
Women Against Gun Violence
Youth for Justice

Senator Kevin de León (Chair)
Senate Rules Committee
State Capitol, Rm. 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

January 10, 2018

Fax (916) 445-1830

RE: Reject re-introduction of alcoholic beverages hours of sale legislation

Dear Chairman de León:

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 21, Chapter 109, Introduction of Bills, 54. (c) states:
“Unless approved by the Committee on Rules of the house of origin, a Member may not author a bill during a session that would have substantially the same effect as a bill he or she previously introduced during that session.”

With this letter, the California Alcohol Policy Alliance (CAPA) is emphatically expressing its opposition to any new legislation in 2018 to extend legal hours of alcohol sales in California, and requesting that any 4 a.m. closing time legislation be rejected in this session under the aforementioned rule.

In 2017, Senator Wiener introduced SB 384, a controversial piece of legislation that would have stripped away statewide protections of a normal 2 a.m. closing time. It was turned into a study in the Assembly Committee on Appropriations and then gutted by the author and changed to a different topic. We are respectfully asking you to invoke the above rule and return to Senator Wiener any such new 4 a.m. bar bill that he places in front of your Rules Committee.

We are concerned because on November 29, 2017 Senator Wiener announced he would re-introduce a new 4 a.m. bar bill in 2018, as a six-city, five-year experiment. Allowing his bill to be applied in six cities – including Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Francisco, Long Beach, West Hollywood and Oakland – does not make the bill substantially different than the previously defeated bill. 17% of California’s population is in those cities and 76% reside in the greater urban areas surrounding those cities, and they always were the most likely cities to consider local party districts under SB 384.

In addition, given the demonstrated ties between alcohol over-service and sexual assault and rape, another 4 a.m. bar bill could not be more ill-timed. **With the sexual assault and harassment turmoil affecting the legislature, passage of this bill will seem tone-deaf at best.** At worst, it will be seen as turning a blind eye to the very real alcohol-related problems facing Sacramento and the state.

California already suffers more alcohol-related harm than any other state. Please do not allow another dangerous nightlife experiment to produce more harm. We ask that any reintroduction of a 4 a.m. bar bill under a different number be rejected by the Senate Rules Committee.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Zaldivar
Co-Chair CAPA

Bruce Lee Livingston
Executive Director / CEO
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