



May 3, 2021

Assembly Member Reginald Jones-Sawyer
Chair, Public Safety Committee
State Capitol, Room 2117
Sacramento, CA 95814

AB 1275 (Jones-Sawyer) Alcoholic beverage control: minors – SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Jones-Sawyer,

Alcohol Justice supports your measure AB 1275 because it will make the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) more effective and efficient in holding problem licensees accountable for providing alcoholic beverages to underage youth.

AB 1275 closes a loophole in the California code that has allowed suspect licensees to avoid conviction in a hearing concerning a violation when a minor has been unable to testify. By relaxing the requirement that the minor must be present at the hearing, the licensee will be held accountable. This makes the ABC's enforcement efforts stronger in protecting public health and safety. Additionally, it allows utilization of minor decoys under the age of 21.

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), California currently suffers more annual alcohol-related harm than any other state: over 10,500 alcohol-related deaths, \$35 billion in total costs, \$14.5 billion in state costs. AB 1275 will help to lower those numbers by putting problem licensees on notice or out of business. Alcohol Justice supports passing AB 1275 and the Governor signing it into law.

Kind regards,

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