



February 1, 2021

Assembly Member Autumn R. Burke,
Chair Committee on Revenue and Taxation
1020 N Street, Room 167A
Sacramento, California 95814

AB 259 (Davies) Protecting Our Restaurants Tax Credit. -- OPPOSE

Dear Chairman Burke,

Alcohol Justice respectfully OPPOSES AB 259 because this is another wrong-headed, COVID-related measure designed to benefit owners of alcohol licensees at the expense of the public. In this instance, if passed, this bill would reduce much-needed income to the state for essential public health and safety services that benefit all residents.

The consumption of every drink (measured in standard size, such as 12 ounces of low ABV beer) costs government over \$1.00 in costs of public health and safety. Further subsidies to the immensely overcrowded alcohol licensed retail sector simply adds to the bleeding of public welfare.

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), California already 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. We respectfully ask that you hold this bill in your committee to ultimately prevent additional public health and safety harm.

Kind regards,

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