



March 11, 2021

Assembly Member Jim Frazier,
Chair of the Governmental Organization Committee
1020 N Street, Room 360A
Sacramento, California 95814

AB 631 (Bloom) Alcoholic beverage control: licenses: nonprofit cultural film exhibition companies – OPPOSE

Dear Chairman Frazier,

Alcohol Justice respectfully OPPOSES AB 631 because it would expand the availability of alcohol to an unknown number of locations, events, and public spaces in California, thus extensively threatening public health and safety.

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.

If California is ever going to reduce this grisly toll, it has to encourage socially responsible business practices that do not harm the public. Allowing businesses other than bars, restaurants, breweries, distilleries and wineries, to sell alcohol to remain profitable takes us in the opposite direction. Even nonprofits that depend now and then on alcohol sales and consumption for fundraising to support their noble missions and visions are adding to the plague of alcohol-related harm in the state. When will government place public health and safety, the foundation of a community's quality of life, ahead of alcohol-industry revenue?

We respectfully ask that you hold this bill in your committee to begin to change the social norm of allowing alcohol consumption at every event and venue. This will prevent additional public health and safety harm.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bruce Lee Livingston".

Bruce Lee Livingston
Executive Director / CEO

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