



March 15, 2017

Senator Steven Glazer  
Chair, California Senate Governmental Organization Committee  
1020 N Street, Room 584  
Sacramento, CA 95814

via fax: 916 445-5258

**RE: OPPOSE SB 461 (Allen) Alcoholic beverage control: tied house restrictions**

Dear Chairman Glazer:

Alcohol Justice (formerly Marin Institute) is a respected alcohol industry watchdog that has been a leading alcohol research and advocacy institution for more than 30 years.

Alcohol Justice is opposed to Allen's SB 461 because while out-of-state distilled spirits shippers may need to be treated equally with in-state shippers under the federal interstate commerce clause, this bill also extends exceptions to tied-house restrictions for many more hotels in the 50-100 guest range. This allows, for example, distilled spirits shippers to own many more beer and wine on-sale licenses at small hotels. Granting yet another regulatory exemption for a segment of the alcohol industry only further erodes fair and effective alcohol regulation in California.

Most importantly, we oppose SB 461 because California already suffers more than \$35 billion dollars in alcohol-related harm and 10,500 alcohol-related deaths annually. If SB 461 is passed and signed into law it will negatively impact public health and safety and increase the potential of alcohol-related problems.

**Please vote NO on SB 461.**

Sincerely,

*Bruce Lee Livingston*

Bruce Lee Livingston  
Executive Director / CEO

*cc: - Members of Senate Committee on Governmental Organization  
- Senator Allen (author) via fax 916 651-4926*