



# California Alcohol Policy Alliance

Alcohol Justice  
Alcohol-Narcotic Education  
Foundation  
ADAP, Inc.  
Behavioral Health Services, Inc.  
CA Council on Alcohol Problems  
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  
L.A. Drug & Alcohol Policy Alliance  
Lutheran Office of Public Policy CA  
MFI Recovery Center  
Mountain Communities Family  
Resource Center  
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  
Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc.  
The Wall Las Memorias Project  
UCEPP / Social Model Recovery  
Systems  
Women Against Gun Violence  
Youth for Justice

Senator Jim Beall  
Chair, California Senate Transportation & Housing Committee  
State Capitol Room 2209  
Sacramento, CA 95814

January 25, 2017

via fax: 916 445-2209

**RE: SB 65 (Hill) – Vehicles: alcohol and marijuana: penalties -  
SUPPORT**

Dear Chairman Beall:

The California Alcohol Policy Alliance (CAPA) is dedicated to uniting diverse organizations and communities in California to protect health and safety, and prevent alcohol-related harm through statewide action.

We support SB 65 because impaired driving of any type of vehicle is a serious problem in California. The operation of vehicles by drivers under the influence of alcohol and drugs represents a significant threat to safety in our state. According to a 2014 California Department of Motor Vehicle report, drug-involved crash fatalities increased 28.0% in the past decade, with 818 people losing their lives in drug-involved crashes in 2012. While according to the California Office of Traffic Safety, over a quarter of all traffic fatalities involve alcohol-impaired driving. In 2014, nearly 900 deaths were reported as a result of alcohol-impaired driving in the state.

In addition to the incredible emotional toll on families, the state estimates that the average alcohol-impaired traffic fatality costs \$3.8 million, including \$1 million in monetary costs and \$2.8 million in quality of life losses.

We believe the interventions provided by SB 65, such as the option of ordering a defendant to attend drug education and counseling classes, are aimed at reducing drinking, drug use and driving and will help reduce impaired driving harm.

We respectfully request your full support of this bill when it comes before your committee.

Sincerely,  
  
Richard L. Zaldivar  
Chair, CAPA

CC: Senator Jerry Hill via fax: 916 319-2136

## AlcoholPolicyAlliance.org

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