

CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE • BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Julian A. Gold M.D., Mayor

August 21, 2018

The Honorable Scott Wiener
11th District, California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5100
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 905 (Wiener) Alcoholic beverages: hours of sale.
City of Beverly Hills – OPPOSE

Dear Senator Wiener,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I write to you in respectful **OPPOSITION** to your **SB 905 (Wiener)**, which would allow on-sale licensees to sell, give, or purchase alcoholic beverages on licensed premises between the hours of 2 a.m. and 4 a.m. in several cities throughout the state.

Current law prohibits California alcohol licensed businesses from selling, serving, and allowing open containers of alcohol to remain in the public portion of a business from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. **SB 905 (Wiener)** would require the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to establish a pilot program to extend allowable serving hours to 4 a.m. and issue a non-transferable “additional hours license” for on-sale licensed premises in Cathedral City, Coachella, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Oakland, Palm Springs, Sacramento, San Francisco, and West Hollywood.

California currently experiences over 10,500 alcohol-related deaths and \$34 billion in costs annually related to alcohol use. The California Office of Traffic Safety has reported that fatality alcohol-related accidents are a chronic and worsening problem for the state. Between 2014 and 2016, alcohol-related traffic accident deaths rose 21 percent. That number can only increase with two additional hours of alcohol consumption. Thus, the only benefit of selling alcohol between 2 a.m. and 4 a.m. will be greater profits to bars, restaurants, and club owners, while the public and all levels of government will be forced to continue to cover the costs of alcohol-related incidents.

Additionally, public health related research at the University of California Los Angeles (“UCLA”) Fielding School of Public Health and UCLA Geffen School of Medicine has found that two or more hours of increased alcohol sales will produce an increase in vehicle accident injuries and admissions to the emergency rooms of hospitals. Other public health related research conducted over the last 40 years found that two or more hours of increased alcohol sales will produce increases in alcohol consumption and alcohol

related problems including violence, emergency room admissions, injuries, alcohol-impaired driving, and motor vehicle accidents.

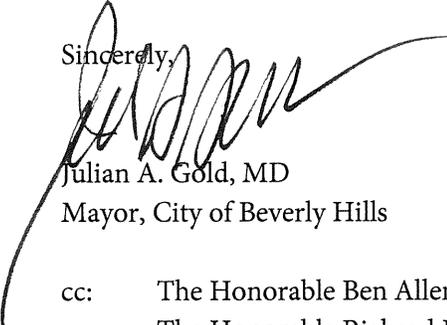
Although the bill indicates that the local governing body would develop and adopt an ordinance regulating these extended serving hours, this provision does nothing to protect localities that are next to or nearby the cities listed in the pilot program. Communities in close but separate jurisdictions are not offered any protections from the deleterious effects caused by extending the availability of alcohol in neighboring communities.

This bill does nothing to address the issues of our City having to increase the number of law enforcement officers during these extended hours to manage the impacts of inebriated individuals during these hours, especially as the cities of Los Angeles and West Hollywood are immediately adjacent to Beverly Hills. Extending service hours would likely lead to an increase in drunk driving, with the real possibility of mixing late night drunk drivers and early morning commuters.

This bill fails to address the significant negative impacts of making alcohol available for sale for longer hours on communities surrounding the cities qualified for the pilot program that will undoubtedly have to manage the negative consequences of this bill.

For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills respectfully **OPPOSES** your **SB 905 (Wiener)**. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Julian A. Gold, MD
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: The Honorable Ben Allen, 26th Senate District
The Honorable Richard Bloom, 50th Assembly District
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw / Yoder / Antwih, Inc.