



Officers

Kenneth Cutler MD, MPH  
President  
Nevada County

Robert Oldham, MD, MSHA  
President-Elect  
Placer County

Muntu Davis, MD, MPH  
Past President  
Los Angeles County

Claudia Jonah, MD  
Treasurer  
Kern County (retired)

Eric Handler, MD, MPH  
Secretary  
Orange County

Directors at Large

Joseph Iser, MD, DrPH, MSc  
Yolo County (retired)

Bela T. Matyas, MD, MPH  
Solano County

Wilma Wooten, MD, MPH  
San Diego County

Cameron Kaiser, MD  
Riverside County

Karen I. Relucio, MD  
Napa County

Sara Cody, MD  
Santa Clara County

Robert Benjamin, MD, MPH  
City of Berkeley (retired)

Kismet Baldwin, MD  
San Joaquin County

Dave Canton, DO, MPH, JD  
Merced County

Staff

Kat DeBurgh, MPH  
Executive Director

Dalia Navarro  
Office Manager

Brandon Roberts  
Legislative Assistant

June 14, 2019

The Honorable Scott Wiener  
State Capitol, Room 5100  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **HOAC Opposes Senate Bill 58**

Dear Senator Wiener:

The Health Officers Association of California (HOAC), which represents the physician health officers of California's sixty-one city and county jurisdictions, must regretfully oppose your SB 58. Allowing the hours for alcohol sales to be extended would strain health and safety resources while giving the alcohol industry an opportunity to profit at the public's expense.

The U.S. Community Prevention Services Task Force, comprised of numerous public health experts and chaired by former health officer for the County of Los Angeles, Dr. Jonathan Fielding, recommended against allowing alcohol to be purchased beyond the current hours of service. Research produced by the Task Force indicated that extending the hours of service by two or more hours increased traffic accidents, incidents of alcohol-related assaults and injuries, and emergency room admissions.

Limiting the proposed pilot project to only a few jurisdictions does not mean the negative impacts of SB 58 will not be felt in communities across California. Drinkers driving from localities with earlier service hours to those with later service hours present challenges that are not confined by city and county lines. Though there may be a handful of cities willing to accept the harms associated with extended alcohol service hours, neighboring jurisdictions with earlier last calls would also be forced to exhaust public health and safety resources to mitigate its effects. Increases in alcohol-related problems result in an increased demand for law enforcement and emergency response, coming at a burden to local agencies and the communities they serve.

HOAC is dedicated to improving the health of California's residents and believes the approval of SB 58 would be harmful to our state. Should you have any questions regarding our position on this matter, I invite you to contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kat DeBurgh".

Kat DeBurgh, MPH  
Executive Director