



Officers

Muntu Davis, MD, MPH
President
Alameda County

March 7, 2018

Ken Cutler, MD, MPH
President-Elect
Nevada County

The Honorable Scott Wiener
State Capitol, Room 4066
Sacramento, CA 95814

Wilma Wooten, MD, MPH
Past President
San Diego County

RE: HOAC Opposes Senate Bill 905

Nicole Quick, MD, MPH
Treasurer
Yuba County

Dear Senator Wiener:

Eric Handler, MD, MPH
Secretary
Orange County

The Health Officers Association of California (HOAC), which represents the physician health officers of California's sixty-one city and county jurisdictions, opposes your SB 905. 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.

Directors at Large

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

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.

Bela T. Matyas, MD, MPH
Solano County

Cameron Kaiser, MD
Riverside County

Limiting the proposed pilot project to only a few jurisdictions does not mean the negative impacts of SB 905 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.

Robert Oldham, MD, MSHA
Placer County

Claudia Jonah, MD
Kern County

Karen I. Relucio, MD
Napa County

HOAC is dedicated to improving the health of California's residents and believes the approval of SB 905 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.

Sara Cody, MD
Santa Clara County

Robert Benjamin, MD, MPH
City of Berkeley

Sincerely,

Karen Milman, MD, MPH
Sonoma County

Staff

Kat DeBurgh, MPH
Executive Director

Kat DeBurgh, MPH
Executive Director

Dalia Navarro
Office Manager

Brandon Roberts
Legislative Assistant