



Elmhurst Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 191613 - Sacramento, CA 95819-7613

January 19, 2019

Statement on SB 58: Alcoholic beverages: hours of sale.

We join the Tahoe Park Neighborhood Association in opposing SB 58 (Wiener) that would allow bars to serve alcohol until 4am in nine California cities, including Sacramento,

We echo their concerns expressed in a January 11, 2019 message to Sacramento neighborhood associations:

[This] will be the third such effort to pass this legislation. The last bill, SB 905, was vetoed by the Governor on September 28, 2018.... From a statement released at the time, the California Highway Patrol "strongly believe[ed]" the legislation would lead to more drunk driving.

*We, too, believe this bill is a threat to the health and safety of our community and the residents of the City of Sacramento. When SB 905 was being considered by the legislature this past summer, TPNA received a letter dated August 29, 2018, from Mayor Steinberg (see attached), which stated, in part, "according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, **there is no correlation between states with later closing times and higher rates of drunk driving.**" (emphasis added) The letter went on to state that "the American Journal of Preventive Medicine echoed this with their findings . . ."*

*We contacted the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and they forwarded studies which contradict the Mayor's assertion, including this statement from a recent report: "Studies that examined increasing hours of sale by 2 or more hours found increases **in vehicle crash injuries, emergency room admissions, and alcohol-related assault and injury.**" (emphasis added) <https://www.thecommunityguide.org/findings/alcohol-excessive-consumption-maintaining-limits-hours-sale>*

We also found no articles or studies in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine to support the statements in the Mayor's letter. We have asked the Mayor for an explanation of these apparent contradictions. To date, we have not received an answer.

Further, we have found no record of when or by what means the Mayor and/or City Council came to include Sacramento in this bill, particularly without any opportunity for input from our community.

M.A.D.D. has voiced opposition to this bill, as have numerous other organizations, including Alcohol Justice, and numerous law enforcement agencies.

TPNA has serious concerns about this bill, not only for the obvious safety issues, but for the inaccurate information the City of Sacramento and the Mayor are disseminating. We ask that you join us and contact the Mayor and City Council to find out more about this bill and let the Mayor and Council know of your concerns as well.

When, on September 28, 2018, Governor Brown vetoed SB 905, he also released this statement: "I believe we have enough mischief from midnight to 2 without adding two more hours of mayhem."

We ask our elected officials to voice their opposition to this bill and we ask our State Senator, Assemblymember and the California Senate and Assembly to vote no on SB 58.

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Board of Directors

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