

# County of Monterey



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April 10, 2023

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel  
California State Assembly  
1020 O Street, Room 5220  
Sacramento, Ca 95814

**Re: AB 1217 (Gabriel) Business Pandemic Relief. – SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Gabriel:

The County of Monterey is pleased to support your measure Assembly Bill (AB) 1217. This measure will support restaurants impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic by providing regulatory flexibility to help facilitate expanded outdoor dining programs.

This bill will extend provisions of AB 61 which has helped to facilitate the state's restaurant recovery by building on local programs to expand outdoor dining opportunities statewide. These local programs have been a tremendous success and have proven to be incredibly valuable for so many community restaurants throughout the state.

AB 1217 will help community restaurants in the following ways: (1) ensure restaurants statewide can take advantage of local outdoor dining expansion opportunities; (2) extend the ABC's regulatory relief, allowing expanded outdoor alcohol service; and (3) allow for the preparation and service of food as a temporary satellite food service without obtaining a separate satellite food service permit.

This measure contains some of the most successful elements of emergency pandemic relief and continues them after the timeline in AB 61. AB 1217 will preserve current regulatory flexibility related to outdoor, patio, and al fresco dining to help restaurants continue to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and inflation. We know that expanded outdoor dining has been critical to the success of so many community restaurants. AB 1217 would also preempt local ordinances and help local restaurants avoid confusing and costly red tape to keep outdoor dining operations open as they work to recover from the pandemic.

For these reasons, the County of Monterey supports AB 1217. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the County's Public Policy Advisor, Ashley Walker of Nossaman LLP at 916-442-8888.

Sincerely,

Luis A. Alejo, Chair  
Board of Supervisors

Cc: Honorable Members, Assembly Governmental Organization Committee  
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Julie King, Assembly Republican Consultant  
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