

County of Monterey



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September 20, 2023

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor
State of California
1020 N Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, Ca 95814

Re: AB 1217 (Gabriel) Business pandemic relief. – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Newsom:

The County of Monterey is pleased to support Assembly Bill (AB) 1217 by Assembly Member Jesse Gabriel and requests your signature on this measure. AB 1217 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 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 pleased to support AB 1217 and requests your signature on this important measure. 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: The Honorable Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel, Author
Sam Miller, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom
The Honorable Anna Caballero, 14th Senate District
The Honorable John Laird, 17th Senate District
The Honorable Robert Rivas, 29th Assembly District
The Honorable Dawn Addis, 30th Assembly District
California State Association of Counties
Rural Counties Representatives of California