

March 15, 2021

The Honorable Mark Stone, Chair Assembly Committee on Judiciary 1020 N Street, Room 104 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 287 (Quirk): Civil Actions: Statute of Limitations

NOTICE OF SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Stone:

The California Cannabis Industry Association (CCIA) writes in support of Assembly Bill 287 by Assemblymember Bill Quirk, which will extend the statute of limitations from one year to three years for civil actions related to cannabis violations.

In 2016, California voters passed The Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act, approved as Proposition 64, with the goal of creating a regulated, legalized cannabis industry in California. The elimination of the illicit cannabis market is crucial to the successful implementation of Proposition 64. However, while various other sections of the Business & Professions Code and parts of the Code of Civil Procedure provide statute of limitations of three to five years, there is not a specific statute of limitation for civil actions related to cannabis violations. This adds an additional challenge towards efforts to combat the illicit market, as illicit cannabis investigations are complex and often involve the coordination of multiple local and state agencies.

The illicit cannabis market in California, which has seen more revenue than ever before in recent years, is our legal industry's biggest competitor and most significant challenge. Illicit operations have no guarantee of age verification, do not pay any state taxes, and sell products without any of the rigorous safety or quality assurance requirements imposed on legal cannabis. Without ensuring regulators have the proper tools to enforce against illicit operations, success of our legal cannabis industry will continue to be stymied and the intent of Proposition 64 cannot fully be met.

For these reasons, CCIA supports AB 287 and urges your "AYE" vote when it is heard in the Assembly Judiciary Committee.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Robinson Executive Director

cc: Assemblymember Bill Quirk, 20th District Members, Assembly Judiciary Committee

Lindson Robinson