

April 30, 2022

The Honorable Bill Quirk Assemblymember, 20th District 1021 O Street, Suite 5120 Sacramento, CA 94249-0025

RE: AB 2210 (Quirk): Cannabis: state temporary event licenses NOTICE OF SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Quirk:

The California Cannabis Industry Association (CCIA) is pleased to support AB 2210, which makes clarifying changes to the current temporary cannabis event provisions.

CCIA was formed to unite the legal cannabis industry to help educate and act as a resource to lawmakers, state regulators, and our members. Our unified voice of over 400 California businesses, represents over 600 brands and approximately 15,000 employees.

CCIA's supports this much needed clean up legislation that prevents unnecessary product waste and clarifies the role of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) in temporary cannabis events authorized by the Department of Cannabis Control (DCC).

Specifically, AB 2210 clarifies that cannabis retail licensees may bring unsold inventory from a temporary event back to their original retail premises if the action is accurately reported in track and trace. It also clarifies that the DCC cannot deny an application for a temporary cannabis event based on the location having an existing ABC license, and that the ABC cannot take disciplinary action against ABC licensees on the basis of a DCC approved cannabis temporary event on the same premises. Finally, AB 2210 clarifies that sales and consumption of cannabis during an approved temporary event may occur at a venue licensed under the ABC if it is in a separate and distinct area.

AB 2210 follows AB 2020 (Quirk, Chapter 749, Statutes of 2018) which authorized the then Bureau of Cannabis Control (BCC) to issue temporary cannabis sales and consumption licenses when permitted by the appropriate local government. This hard-fought legislation was carefully negotiated with local governments, law enforcement and public health advocates to address concerns. To that end, AB 2020 included provisions to safeguard against the consumption of

cannabis, alcohol and tobacco on the same premises and other important public safety protocols aimed deterring youth access and protecting public health and safety.

What was not contemplated was how the ABC would interpret the bill's provisions - specifically that any venue with an existing ABC license is not allowed to be used for a temporary cannabis event - even when cannabis and alcohol is sold and consumed in separate and distinct areas within the same venue. This has had the effect of severely limiting where temporary events can occur, as most event venues maintain an active ABC license.

AB 2210 amends the temporary cannabis event provisions by clarifying that venues with an existing ABC license may be used for temporary cannabis events provided that the event organizer meets all the existing protocols as outlined under existing law.

For these reasons, CCIA is pleased to support your AB 2210 and thanks you for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

**\LINDSAY ROBINSON Executive Director** 

Lindson Robinson