

March 7, 2018

The Honorable Scott Wiener State Capitol, Room 4066 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 905 (Wiener) – LOCAL Act: LET OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES ADJUST LATE-NIGHT – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Wiener:

On behalf of the Downtown Long Beach Alliance (DLBA), representing more than 1,600 businesses and 4,000 commercial and residential property owners within the two Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) in Downtown Long Beach, please accept this letter supporting SB 905 in concept while we continue to conduct our due diligence with our civic partners including law enforcement and local stakeholders.

The DLBA is always amenable when the State relinquishes control back to local jurisdictions and allows cities to craft policies that are tailored to the nuances of their communities. As the proposed bill is currently written, we appreciate the opportunity for Long Beach to be identified as one of six cities in the pilot program.

Along with our counterparts in Sacramento, San Francisco, Oakland, Los Angeles and West Hollywood, we know that social and nightlife venues are economic drivers for our communities through consumer spending. SB 905 provides an optional tool for local control over nightlife that will increase tax revenue and tourism, as well as strengthen our business districts.

However, since this proposed bill is a novel concept for the State, Long Beach and our Downtown, it is still imperative that we conduct our due diligence as the proposed bill proceeds to its final approval. This engagement will require additional and continued communication and coordination with our stakeholders, law enforcement and local policymakers to sort out the many details that will contribute and lead to a local ordinance.

While the DLBA supports the proposed bill and its designation of Long Beach as a pilot program city for expanded late-night hours, we convey that our support is hinged on greater clarity and understanding of the programs aspects from our local officials and stakeholders.

Sincerely,

Kraig Kojian
President & CEO

cc: Senator Scott Wiener

Mayor Robert Garcia

Chief of Police Robert Luna, City of Long Beach Police Department Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez, City of Long Beach First Council District Councilmember Jeanne Pearce, City of Long Beach Second Council District

DLBA Board of Directors