

March 17, 2021

The Honorable Senator Melissa Melendez
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 102 Saving California Business Act
SUPPORT

Dear Senator,

The Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce is writing to express our support for SB 102, the Saving California Business Act. California businesses have experienced an unprecedented disruption in their normal business operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout the crises, businesses have done their best to keep up with an ever-changing regulatory environment and compliance standards, often at great expense.

SB 102 would prevent the state from leveraging their licensing responsibility to revoke licenses of businesses unnecessarily because they are not complying with the COVID-19 state guidelines. If this bill passes, it will prohibit the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control or a Board within the Department of Consumer Affairs from revoking a license unless they can prove that that due to lack of compliance a COVID-19 transmission occurred. It would additionally prevent the State from imposing fees and penalties on struggling businesses in this capacity.

We believe the State should not be utilizing their licensing authority to punish local businesses during this difficult time, and should rather focus their energies on education, support, and coordination with local government. We trust our local city and county enforcement mechanisms to enforce rules and regulations as needed, and to perform their trust to keep our community safe. Our businesses should be offered support, guidance, and where needed instructional correction from the State, not be subject to license revocations and fines during this unprecedented crisis.

For these reasons, we respectfully SUPPORT SB 102.

Sincerely,



Joshua. R. Bonner, IOM
President and CEO
Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce