

## CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

## 455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE • BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Robert Wunderlich, Mayor

October 6, 2021

The Honorable Gavin Newsom Governor, State of California State Capitol, Governor's Office Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 389 (Dodd) Alcoholic beverages: retail on-sale license: off-sale

privileges

City of Beverly Hills – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I am pleased to **SUPPORT SB 389 (Dodd)** and respectfully request that you **SIGN** this measure into law when it reaches your desk. **SB 389** would allow restaurants to sell to-go alcoholic beverages with food orders.

After you issued a statewide stay-at-home order on March 19, 2020, the California Department of Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) issued the first of many regulatory relief notices to help restaurants who had been crippled by serving only takeout or delivery meals. The first notice allowed licensees with on-site alcohol sale privileges the right to sell alcoholic beverages for off-sale consumption. This policy was intended to be temporary in order to provide immediate relief during the COVID-19 pandemic. This regulatory relief will expire on December 31, 2021.

As the nation reopens, restaurants must find ways to recover from hundreds of billions of dollars in losses sustained because of the lockdowns and social distancing requirements to stop the spread of COVID-19. A survey by the National Restaurant Association found 78 percent of restaurant owners who began selling takeout alcohol rehired laid-off employees compared to 62 percent of restaurants who did not offer takeout alcohol.

At least 33 states, including California, temporarily allow the sale of to-go cocktails during the pandemic. To ensure the economic recovery of California restaurants, **SB 389** would provide restaurant owners with a critical tool to help them recover from their pandemic-related losses by allowing them to sell to-go alcoholic beverages with food orders until 2026.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that you take action to **SIGN SB 389** (**Dodd**) into law. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Wunderlich, Mayor

Robert Wunderlich

City of Beverly Hills

cc: The Honorable Bill Dodd, 3rd Senate District

The Honorable Ben Allen, 26th Senate District

The Honorable Richard Bloom, 50th Assembly District

Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange