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April 11, 2025

Assemblymember Blanca Rubio, Chair  
Assembly Governmental Organization Committee  
1021 O Street, Room 360A  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 342 (Haney) Alcoholic beverages: hours of sale – Oppose**

Dear Assemblymember Rubio,

On behalf of the Health Officers Association of California (HOAC), which represents the physician health officers of California’s sixty-one city and county jurisdictions, we write in opposition to AB 342 (Haney).

AB 342 would extend the hours during which licensed establishments can sell alcohol. Increased sales will almost certainly lead to increased consumption of alcohol, which can lead to significant long-term health problems such as liver disease, heart disease, and certain types of cancer. Later closing times for bars contribute to more intoxicated drivers on the road and potentially more traffic fatalities. Additionally, studies show that extended bar hours correlate to high rates of violence, including assault, robberies, and other alcohol-related crimes.

We know from years of experience that limiting the hours of sale for alcoholic beverages reduces drinking and alcohol-related problems. Increased profits for vendors will necessarily mean increased costs for the state in terms of public safety and health care. For these reasons HOAC respectfully opposes AB 342 (Haney). Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kat DeBurgh, MPH  
Executive Director  
Health Officers Association of California