



MEDIA ADVISORY
for events occurring July 8, 2021

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Los Angeles Says: Too Much Alcohol on These Streets!

California Alcohol Policy Alliance Rally & Call-To-Action to Oppose State Assemblymember Gabriel's Support for Sponsored Drinking on CA Sidewalks

Advocates demand public health and social justice over corporate profits, oppose AB 61 & SB 314

LOS ANGELES, CA (July 7, 2021) – Members of [California Alcohol Policy Alliance \(CAPA\)](#) will hold an opposition rally at the Los Angeles district office of California State Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel (D-Encino), principal author of [AB 61](#) & coauthor [SB 314](#). Both bills focus on expanding alcohol consumption on public property.

As all California communities struggle to recover from COVID, those most disproportionately socio-economically impacted are black, brown and low-income. For them there is no relief in Gabriel's bills which prioritize business economic recovery. He is completely disregarding the unintended consequences of his misguided efforts: high costs of implementation, lack of infrastructure, and loss of overriding local control of cities to implement safe street and sidewalk initiatives for residents and business alike.

This is a social justice issue for low-income and communities of color, pedestrians and drivers already severely compromised by heavy policing, lack of resources, and limited access to walkable and family friendly city streets. Promoting the need for non-union low paying jobs for communities of color as a means to justify alcohol deregulation co-opts social justice and equity to advance corporate profits. The real question is: who is funding these initiatives because it is not the labor unions and it is not the community.

In 2020, Assemblymember Gabriel received \$5,700 from the Beer, Wine and Liquor sector – \$4,700 from Anheuser-Busch (a multinational corporation headquartered in Belgium) and \$1,000 from Wine Institute a corporate alcohol funded lobbyist organization. Gabriel's bills will effectively privatize public spaces and compromise pedestrian right-of-way safety in the City of Los Angeles.

What: Opposition Rally & Call to Action

When: Thursday July 8, 2020, 11 a.m. to noon

Where: 20750 Ventura Blvd. Suite 101, Woodland Hills, CA 91364

Who:

- Pueblo y Salud
- Los Angeles Drug and Alcohol Policy Alliance (LADAPA)
- LGBTQ+ Caucus, CAPA
- Disability Activists
- Community Activists, Youth and Parents
- [Alcohol Justice](#)

Why:

- COVID regulatory relief measures were never meant to be made permanent or extended they were supposed to be temporary.
- According to an August 2020 CDC report, both African-Americans and Latinx were at dramatically greater risk of trauma or stress disorders related to COVID-19. This has manifested in increased suicidal ideation and the initiation of or increase in substance use, as compared to other ethnic or racial groups.
- Our communities are recovering from the most severe health crisis of our time, expansion of alcohol consumption should not be our priority.
- California currently suffers over 10,500 alcohol-related deaths, 165,000 alcohol-related hospitalizations and \$35 billion in related economic harm annually.
- Problems from excessive alcohol consumption annually cost approximately \$940 for every resident, or \$2.44 for every drink. (CDC)
- SB 314 would restrict use of what should be public space, it threatens to allow “party zones” of a type that have historically resulted in nuisance and license violations.
- Expanding drinking into public areas such as sidewalks poses a threat to seniors and people with disabilities and threatens ADA compliance.
- Many cities lack the capacity to implement expansion into public spaces, especially dense communities that rely heavily on public transportation and have narrow sidewalks and other infrastructure limitations.
- ABC will not engage in enforcement because most of these requirements are essentially non-enforceable by the department.
- There are already numerous methods for consumers to acquire alcohol in person at retail outlets or through delivery from retailers. Our communities do not need more access through cocktails-to-go.
- Cocktails-to-go create more barriers to monitoring underage alcohol consumption.

With this event, CAPA is launching a public [CALL to ACTION](#) to demand that Assemblymember Gabriel, the Legislature, and the Governor acknowledge that excessive alcohol use is No. 3 on the list of preventable causes of death in California and stop any bills seeking to extend or expand COVID-19 regulatory rollbacks for economic relief.

Take Action here: : <https://bit.ly/3oFz1uo> or text PUBLICHEALTH to 313131 to tell legislators and the Governor to choose PUBLIC HEALTH over industry profits and STOP AB 61 AND SB 314.

The [California Alcohol Policy Alliance \(CAPA\)](#) unites diverse organizations and communities in California to protect health and safety, and prevent alcohol-related harm through statewide action.

CAPA Member Organizations

- Alcohol Justice
- Alcohol-Narcotics Education Foundation of California
- ADAPP, Inc.
- ADAPT San Ramon Valley
- Bay Area Community Resources
- Behavioral Health Services, Inc.
- CA Council on Alcohol Problems
- Cambodian American Association of America
- CASA for Safe & Healthy Neighborhoods
- Center for Human Development
- Center for Open Recovery
- DogPAC of San Francisco
- Dolores Huerta Foundation
- Eden Youth & Family Center
- Institute for Public Strategies
- FASD Network of Southern CA
- FreeMUNI – SF
- Friday Night Live Partnership
- Future Leaders of America
- Koreatown Youth & Community Center
- Laytonville Healthy Start
- L.A. County Friday Night Live
- L.A. Drug & Alcohol Policy Alliance
- L.A. County Office of Education

- Lutheran Office of Public Policy – CA
- MFI Recovery Center
- Mountain Communities Family Resource Center
- National Asian Pacific American Families Against Substance Abuse
- National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence – Orange County
- Partnership for a Positive Pomona
- Paso por Paso, Inc.
- Project SAFER
- Pueblo y Salud
- Reach Out
- San Marcos Prevention Coalition
- San Rafael Alcohol & Drug Coalition
- SAY San Diego
- Saving Lives Drug & Alcohol Coalition
- South Orange County Coalition
- Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc.
- The Wall Las Memorias Project
- UCEPP Social Model Recovery Systems
- Women Against Gun Violence
- Youth For Justice

TELL ASM. JESSE GABRIEL

**TOO MUCH ALCOHOL
ON THESE STREETS!**
NO MORE DRINKING IN PUBLIC
THURSDAY, JULY 8TH

10 AM-12 PM
20750 VENTURA BLVD. SUITE 101,
WOODLAND HILLS, CA 91364
(VENTURA BLVD STEPS)

LUNCH PROVIDED
BRING: COMFORTABLE SHOES,
WATER AND SIGNS
CONTACT: MAYRA JIMENEZ, 323-683-4687

For more information go to: <https://alcoholpolicyalliance.org/> or <https://alcoholjustice.org/>

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