

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS KATHRYN BARGER
AND JANICE HAHN

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SUPPORT SB 314 and AB 61

The impacts of COVID-19 on the restaurant industry have been staggering. The National Restaurant Association estimates that, nationally, restaurants and food service sales were down \$240 billion from expected levels for 2020. In Los Angeles County, restaurant job losses are estimated to be 122,700, a 33.7% decline between January 2020 and January 2021. The restaurant industry faces a long and difficult recovery.

During the pandemic, many restaurants were forced to change their operations. Outdoor dining became an important aspect of many restaurant’s operations and survival. As we move towards a full reopening, many dining venues have expressed an interest in continuing relaxed outdoor dining regulations. SB 314 and AB 61 take steps towards streamlining outdoor operations for restaurants.

SB 314 would help streamline alcohol sales by allowing current licensees under Alcoholic Beverage Control’s (ABC) emergency relief order a grace period of one year after the emergency order is lifted to apply for a permanent expansion of their license. This bill would also allow bars and restaurants to share commercial space with other bars and restaurants, or with non-alcohol-serving businesses, by permitting the use of a shared location within a single licensed building. Additionally, this bill would increase the flexibility of California’s alcohol license process.

AB 61 would assist restaurants in continuing to expand their outdoor dining options. One of the key features of this bill would be to temporarily waive certain requirements and allow restaurants to utilize their own parking spaces for outdoor dining, as well as extending relief from certain ABC requirements. Specifically, this bill would provide ABC with the flexibility to make temporary changes to existing alcohol licenses and develop a policy for third-party delivery of alcohol.

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MOTION

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Restaurants are a vital part of every community. Sharing a meal gives people a chance to get together and build stronger relationships. After over a year of displacement from normal life, we as a county should support restaurants in order to help rebuild our personal connections.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Instruct the Los Angeles County's Legislative Advocates in Sacramento to support SB 314.
2. Instruct the Los Angeles County's Legislative Advocates in Sacramento to support AB 61.

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