



August 15, 2018

The Honorable Miguel Santiago
State Capitol, Room 6027
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SUPPORT – AB 1217 (Santiago): Alcoholic beverage licenses: historic cemetery.

Dear Assemblymember Santiago:

On behalf of the California Travel Association, CalTravel, I wish to express support for AB 1217, that will authorize the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) to issue a special on-sale general alcoholic beverage license to the Hollywood Forever Cemetery (Hollywood Forever) in Los Angeles for indoor or outdoor special events that attract visitors and most importantly tourist. These special events include: movie screenings, concerts, festivals, charity events, and more.

As the umbrella trade association representing the travel, tourism, and hospitality industry, CalTravel members take immense pride in the experiences and services they provide to tourists. In 2017, the tourism industry in California generated \$130 billion in spending that supported over one million jobs. California travelers also generated \$10 billion in state and local taxes to support vital public services including police, fire protection, health and homeless services, park maintenance, education and road repair. Our membership is made up of cities, destinations, resorts, amusement and water parks, sports venues, transportation companies, industry associations, ad agencies, media companies, and other organizations for whom travel and tourism is important.

Currently, Hollywood Forever obtains 1-day permits (around 90 a year) from ABC to serve alcoholic beverages during special events. Every permit application requires a \$50 fee, and applications must be manually delivered to each of several agencies for sign-off and approval. Because the task of obtaining such permits is both expensive and time consuming, Hollywood Forever is seeking a permanent licensing solution. There is currently no license available within ABC that comprehensively addresses the operations at Hollywood Forever. AB 1217 is the solution to this problem since it will authorize ABC to issue a special on-sale general alcoholic beverage license to Hollywood Forever.

Authorizing this license will enable Hollywood Forever to better operate its special events while protecting the interest of the public for a safe and well-regulated environment for these special events. These special events make Los Angeles and the state of California livelier by attracting large crowds and visitors. For these reasons and more, CalTravel is pleased to support AB 1217.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Newton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Barbara Newton
President and CEO
California Travel Association