

CALIFORNIA COUNCIL ON ALCOHOL PROBLEMS

REV. JAMES B. BUTLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

September 8, 2017

Chair Planning and Land Use
Management Committee
Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Sent via email to : clerk.plumcommittee@lacity.org

Re: Council file number 17-0117: Alcohol Restricted Use Subdistrict/Conditional Use Permits

Dear Councilmember José Huizar,

On behalf of the *California Council on Alcohol Problems*, I am writing to express our SUPPORT of the above-referenced Committee motion.

CalCAP is a citizen nonprofit organization that networks with thousands of church congregations and officials, as well as hundreds of individuals who have witnessed or experienced the harmful impact that alcohol can have on individuals, families, and communities. Our mission is to monitor and seek to influence California policies that could either increase or decrease those negative impacts on California residents and taxpayers.

Representing pastors and church volunteers who are on the front line of dealing with the ill-effects of alcoholism, we are troubled by the over-concentration of alcohol retail locations in the City of Los Angeles. Currently there is a motion (**Council File 17-0117**) instructing the Planning Department, in consultation with the City Attorney, to prepare a report on the feasibility of establishing a process to create Alcohol Restricted Use Subdistricts (ARUS), that would serve to restrict the over-concentration of alcohol retailers where the sale of alcohol is negatively impacting neighborhoods and residents.

ARUS would allow communities and their representatives to identify vulnerable areas in city council districts where restrictions could be applied on the future issuances of off-sale or on-sale alcohol licenses. ARUS zones will protect communities and families while encouraging healthier retail options to open up in the area.

We ask that the Planning and Land Use Management Committee schedule the ARUS motion for a hearing. We also respectfully request that the committee support passage of the motion.

Sincerely,



Reverend James Butler
CalCAP Executive Director