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## Council File 17-0117: Letter of Support from Homeboy Industries

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Vince Leus

Apr 28, 2017 1:46 PM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

To whom it may concern,

I would like to add the attached letter of support for **Council File 17-0117** to the official record. The letter is from Homeboy Industries. Thank you.

Best,

Vince



Vince Leus

Health Policy Associate

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April 28, 2017

Dear Chairman Huizar,

We first want to thank councilmember Huizar and the PLUM committee for their support of the ordinance banning alcohol ads on city owned and controlled property. We are happy to report that the Coalition to Ban Alcohol Ads on Public Property in Los Angeles has now consolidated into the Los Angeles Drug and Alcohol Policy Alliance (L.A. DAPA).

Homeboy Industries has been working with underserved communities for over twenty years. We have helped more than 120,000 formerly gang-involved and previously incarcerated men and women redirect their lives, re-enter society and contribute to our community. Our free programs include mental health services, job-training programs, tattoo removals and GED preparation classes.

As concerned community members we are troubled by the overconcentration 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 overconcentration of alcohol retailers in areas of the City where the retail 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.

A 2016 report published by the Substance Abuse Prevention and Control Los Angeles County Department of Public Health titled, 'Alcohol Outlet Density and Alcohol - Related Consequences,' concluded the following:

*"[Los Angeles] Communities and cities with higher alcohol outlet density were more likely to have higher rates of violent crimes, alcohol-related [emergency department] ED visits, and alcohol-related hospitalizations, even after accounting for economic hardship."*

The correlation between overconcentration of alcohol retail locations and harms is unquestionable. 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,



Fr. Gregory J. Boyle, S.J.  
Founder and Executive Director



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