



**SAN
FRANCISCO
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**

March 16, 2017

The Honorable Scott Wiener
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 4066
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for SB 384 (Wiener)

Dear Senator Wiener,

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, representing over 2,500 local businesses with over 200,000 employees in San Francisco and across the Bay Area supports your bill SB 384 which aligns California with other states where local jurisdictions have the authority to decide alcoholic beverage service hours.

California statute permits the legal sale of alcohol until 2:00 a.m. at on- and off-sale establishments. This makes it challenging for San Francisco to compete for tourists, conventions and conferences attracted to late-night cultural offerings of other cities across the country and around the world that allow alcohol sales after that time. And it may not meet the growing demand of local residents who work non-traditional hours and would enjoy more options for late-night entertainment.

The social and nightlife industries are major economic drivers in San Francisco. An analysis by the City found nightlife business spends hundreds of millions of dollars on local food, beverages, services and supplies. It employs nearly 48,000 people and generates \$55 million in local tax revenue each year.

SB 384 does not mandate extended hours. Rather it increases local determination by giving community members, working with law enforcement, a process to decide whether to adopt the extension of sales hours following a robust public process. This is a creative, reasonable and inclusive approach that gives local residents the authority to determine what is best for their community.

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce supports SB 384 and applauds Senator Wiener for his efforts.

Sincerely,

Jim Lazarus
Senior Vice President of Public Policy