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**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
BOYLE HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**CERTIFIED COUNCIL
2130 East 1st Street
Suite 110
Los Angeles, CA 90033
www.bhnc.net**

January 29, 2019

Mayor Eric Garcetti & Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Restaurant Beverage Program Ordinance (Council File #17-0981)

Dear Mayor, City Council, and Committees:

On January 23, 2019, the Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council voted 12-0-6 to oppose the CF17-0981, Restaurant Beverage Program Ordinance, an ordinance amending sections 12.22 and 12.24 of the LAMC to create an administrative clearance process for certain types of restaurants to serve alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption subject to a standard set of limitations and requirements.

Neighborhood Councils must be allowed a voice in what is best for their community. Currently, this proposed ordinance does not address density and overconcentration. Moreover, the ordinance strips the community of their voice, specially the neighborhood councils. In a neighborhood like Boyle Heights, where the over concentration and saturation of liquor licenses has been widely documented and reported on, it is essential that the NC's preserve the opportunity to advocate for the community's concerns.

Further concerns include the fact the department responsible for the regulation and enforcement lacks the capacity to ensure the prescribed standards are enforced. This will result in a shift of responsibility from a City Department onto the community, placing the burden on the community to report problematic restaurants.

Lastly, the amount of liquor outlets for our community is a public health concern as well as one of public safety. Boyle Heights is already targeted for new businesses that sell alcohol. The reasoning that this ordinance aims to assist in developing workforce opportunities through economic development is misleading. Restaurant jobs are usually part-time, low-paying, rarely provide health insurance, and not career-tracked. Neighborhood should have the option to opt-out because facilitating the process for business owners at the expense of the community is reckless and dangerous.

Sincerely,

The Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council



Daisy Chávez, President
BOYLE HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
PRESIDENT@BHNC.NET

CC: JOSE HUIZAR, CITY OF LOS ANGELES, COUNCIL DISTRICT 14