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Contact: Linneah Flahive **Telephone:** (916) 933-1335

Email: <u>Linneah@eldoradohillschamber.org</u> **Website:** Eldoradohillschamber.org

Chamber Lobbies for Additional Type 47 Liquor Licenses

El Dorado Hills, CA, November 7, 2024 – After collaborating with Senator Brian Dahle on Senate Bill 1452 in 2022, an additional **10** Type 47 liquor licenses were made available for El Dorado County.

"Beginning in 2023, the Alcoholic Beverage Control began issuing up to four licenses per year until the county receives an additional ten. I can confirm that the four El Dorado County Priority Licenses were specifically awarded in 2023 due to SB 1452," Deven Blankenship, Public Information Officer for ABC said. "The population in El Dorado County did not have enough growth the prior year for them to receive any additional licenses."

After the passage of SB 1452, the Chamber reached out to Assemblyman Joe Patterson to express that while the bill was a helpful step, more action was still needed.

Assemblymember Joe Patterson announced the successful passage of Assembly Bill 2589 (AB 2589), a crucial piece of legislation designed to support economic recovery in California's retail center. The bill authorizes the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) to issue up to **10** additional on-sale general licenses for bona fide public eating places located in **large retail centers** in both **El Dorado** and **Placer Counties**, providing a vital boost to local economies and ensuring that shopping centers can remain competitive in the evolving retail landscape.

Key Provisions of AB 2589

AB 2589 allows the issuance of new Type 47 licenses, which authorize the sale of beer, wine, and distilled spirits for consumption at licensed restaurants, bars, and other dining establishments. Specifically, the bill includes the following provisions:

- Up to 10 New Licenses: The ABC may issue up to 10 additional on-sale general licenses for bona fide public eating places located in retail centers in El Dorado and Placer Counties. These centers must contain at least 300,000 square feet of retail shopping space open to the public.
- Retail Center Definition: A "retail center" is defined as a multi-tenant shopping center with at least 300,000 square feet of retail space accessible to the public.
 Heavenly Village, a major retail and tourism hub in South Lake Tahoe, and Town Center in El Dorado Hills, both qualify under this definition.

Supporting Economic Growth in Retail Centers

AB 2589 comes at a critical time as retail centers across California, especially in rural and suburban areas, are facing challenges in adapting to changing consumer habits and a shifting retail environment. Many of these large shopping centers are struggling to attract tenants and maintain a competitive edge due to the high costs of obtaining alcohol licenses through traditional channels.

"When El Dorado Hills Chamber of Commerce identified a problem with attracting new local restaurants, we were excited to partner with them and introduce legislation on their behalf," said Assemblyman Joe Patterson. "My job as an elected is to solve local problems and I'm glad we were able to get this legislation signed by the Governor."

"We applaud our Assemblyman for continuing this battle of inequities in how Type 47 licenses are issued in the state," Debbie Manning, President and CEO of the El Dorado Hills Chamber said. "We will continue to advocate for further legislation to address this outdated policy."