

September 7, 2022

RE: Local Jurisdiction Retail Access Grant Program

To Whom It May Concern:

Submitting this response on behalf of the California Asian-Pacific Chamber of Commerce (CalAsian Chamber) in support of the Local Jurisdiction Retail Access Grant Program.

The cannabis industry yielded \$817 million for the state just in the 2020-2021 fiscal year. The growth of this industry provides enormous opportunities for continued success in our state and local economies, and entrepreneurial and business opportunities for Californians to enter the industry. The growth of the legal cannabis marketplace is dependent on the expansion of retail storefronts in all counties and cities across the state. Despite an overwhelming majority of voters passing Proposition 64 in 2016, residents today are unable to purchase adult-use cannabis in 62% of cities and counties across the state.

The Local Jurisdiction Retail Access Grant Program will aid local governments with the development and implementation of retail licensing programs, which will ensure better cannabis retail access for their residents. Permitting legal cannabis in communities will bring tax revenue, jobs, and business opportunities to communities.

CalAsian Chamber supports this critical program and looks forward to working with the DCC to create pathways that ensure business and job opportunities for Californians within the industry.

Sincerely,



Frank Louie