



CITY of LAGUNA NIGUEL

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CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Fred Minagar
Mayor Pro Tem Elaine Gennawey
Council Member Kelly Jennings
Council Member Sandy Rains
Council Member Risch Paul Sharma

February 11, 2021

The Honorable Laurie Davies
Assembly Member, California State Assembly
State Capitol Building, Room 3141
Sacramento, CA 94249

Letter of Support AB 259 – Tax Credit for Restaurants

Dear Assembly Member Davies,

On behalf of the City of Laguna Niguel, I am writing you to express our support of Assembly Bill 259 *Protecting Our Restaurants Tax Credit*. The COVID-19 pandemic has placed a significant financial burden on all our businesses, and steps need to be taken to alleviate the burdens bestowed upon them. Restaurants have barred some of the pandemic's most significant financial burdens, having to continually adapt and re-adapt to evolving state health orders. Indoor dining has been absent for months, leaving businesses to rely solely on take-out and to-go ordering to survive. The businesses in Laguna Niguel have been resilient, showing resolve each day, a testament to this remarkable City's character.

The tax credit outlined in AB-259 is a great step in the right direction towards providing financial assistance to restaurants faced with a lack of profit as a result of fewer customers. By providing an alcohol license tax credit of an amount equal to 50 percent of the annual fee paid, the state would be saving businesses hundreds or thousands of dollars. These savings could be the difference between an employee having a job or being furloughed, a business having to shut its doors for good, or remain an important part of the local community.

The City of Laguna Niguel has taken every step possible to assist our businesses throughout the pandemic, and we hope that the state will do the same. We respectfully urge the Assembly to support all our businesses across the great state of California and support AB 259.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fred Minagar".

Fred Minagar
Mayor