



January 20, 2021
Governor Gavin Newsom
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Letter in Strong Support to Appoint California Assemblymember Rob Bonta (D-18)
to California Attorney General**

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the United Cannabis Business Association (UCBA), we write to inform you that we strongly support Assemblymember Rob Bonta to serve as California Attorney General as the office becomes vacant. UCBA represents cannabis operators in California that are dedicated to providing the highest quality products to their patients and adult-use customers. UCBA is focused on working to raise awareness and increase education of the market and its benefits. As a leading cannabis trade association, UCBA brings together the forerunners of this constantly evolving industry to serve as a voice for this often misrepresented trade through advocacy, education, and innovation.

The California Attorney General is an Office of great significance in the enforcement of state laws, the provision of state legal services, the legal representation of the state, and the oversight and support of law enforcement agencies. The Office's significance has even more significance today given the many legal and law issues faced by Californians and the State arising from the deadly COVID-19 pandemic, a devastating recession, a historic civil rights movement against systemic racism, a disturbing rise in hate crimes and incidents, among many others.

Mr. Bonta has been a strong advocate for the cannabis industry and social equity groups. Mr. Bonta was a leader in enacting legislation to allow for patients to have access to cannabis products. Mr. Bonta has enacted landmark legislation in policy areas such as: criminal justice reform, housing and tenants rights, language access in voting, environmental protection, education, gun violence prevention, access to health care, women's rights, human trafficking prevention, worker protections, and immigrant rights.

Mr. Bonta is ready to serve as California Attorney General and has the expertise to do it. In the past:

- Mr. Bonta practiced as a litigation attorney, including as a governmental attorney, for thirteen years and is knowledgeable in all stages of pre-trial, trial, and appellate practice.
- Mr. Bonta has legal experience in key areas, including civil rights, crime, governmental affairs, consumer protection, contract, and fraud.
- Mr. Bonta was undefeated at trial, never losing a jury verdict for his clients.
- Mr. Bonta further has significant experience as a governmental legal adviser, serving as a Deputy City Attorney for the City and County of San Francisco.
- Mr. Bonta's accomplishments as a state and local legislator also give him a deep understanding of the state laws and the functioning of government, which is critical to effectively enforcing the state laws and overseeing the Department of Justice and law enforcement agencies.

Mr. Bonta has tackled some of the major cannabis issues in the state advocating for workers, patients and cannabis operators. As California Attorney General, he would be aware of the current problems that face cannabis operators due to the illicit market and would find reasonable solutions. For the reasons stated above, we respectfully request that Mr. Bonta is appointed California Attorney General.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerred Kiloh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'J' and 'K'.

Jerred Kiloh
President
United Cannabis Business Association