

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 30 2024

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 1775, which would allow local jurisdictions to permit certain cannabis retailers to prepare and sell food or drinks that do not contain cannabis, as well as host and sell tickets to live events at their licensed premises.

Under existing law, cannabis retailers with consumption areas may sell prepackaged food and beverages if authorized by the applicable local jurisdiction. This bill expands that existing authority to include freshly prepared food and drinks consistent with the California Retail Food Code and applicable local requirements.

As I stated in my veto message of a similar measure last year, protecting the health and safety of workers is paramount to upholding California's long-standing smoke-free workplace protections.

I commend the author for incorporating additional safeguards, such as expressly protecting employees discretion to wear a mask for respiration, paid for at the expense of the employer, and requiring employees to receive additional guidance on the risks of secondhand cannabis smoke.

While I am signing this bill, any future measure that diverges from this tailored approach will not be looked upon favorably. Furthermore, it is critical that local governments utilize this delegated authority responsibly by prioritizing worker safety and implementing stringent safeguards that minimize public health risks

when authorizing these activities. If adequate protections are not established at the local level, it could necessitate reconsideration of this limited expansion.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsorh