

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 0 8 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 374 without my signature.

This bill 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.

I appreciate the author's intent to provide cannabis retailers with increased business opportunities and an avenue to attract new customers. However, I am concerned this bill could undermine California's long-standing smoke-free workplace protections.

Protecting the health and safety of workers is paramount. I encourage the author to address this concern in subsequent legislation.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

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Gavin Newson