



INDIE BUSINESS™
NETWORK

Donna Maria Coles Johnson

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Committee on Governmental Organization
1020 N Street, Room 360A
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for AB 376

Dear Chairman Jim Frazier,

I am writing to express the Indie Business Network's support for AB 376.

The Indie Business Network is an entrepreneurial coaching and networking community composed of creative entrepreneurs from across the nation. At present, we have 313 members in the state of California. Many of our members make the products they sell. They also host DIY ("do-it-yourself") arts and crafts workshops to teach others how to make products like bath and body products, candles, herbal teas, pottery and more. If passed, AB 376 would allow them to offer complimentary wine or beer, in limited quantities, at their workshops.

Our members have no interest in getting into the business of selling alcoholic beverages. They do, however, want to create a fun and memorable environment and experience for their workshop attendees. Being able to offer small quantities of beer and wine during very limited times of the day will enhance the workshop experience and go a long way toward helping these small artisan business owners be successful.

Currently in California, companies offering hot air balloon rides, limousine ride services, and beauty and barber services may serve wine or beer, subject to certain restrictions. Extending this privilege to arts and crafts establishments via AB 376 would help small business owners become and remain competitive in an increasingly challenging business landscape.

As we finally begin to take steps toward emerging from the pandemic, creative business owners need all the help they can get to be successful and thrive. This is a highly motivated segment of the population, and they hit the ground running every day -- pandemic or not. Allowing them to offer complimentary wine and beer to their clients and customers during workshops would give them a critical extra boost.

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I strongly urge you to support AB 376, and stand up for the success of creative artisan entrepreneurs in the state of California.

Thank you for your consideration, and please do not hesitate to reach out to me if I can answer any questions that might assist you in making a decision to support this piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna Maria Coles Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

Donna Maria Coles Johnson
Founder and CEO
Indie Business Network

Indie Business

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