

# COUNTY OF EL DORADO

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**JAMES S. MITRISIN**  
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March 8, 2016

The Honorable Jacqui Irwin  
District 44  
P.O. Box 942849, Room 6011  
Sacramento, CA 94249

Dear Assemblywoman Irwin:

The County of El Dorado Board of Supervisors hereby formally expresses its support for Assembly Bill (AB) 1554 (Jacqui Irwin). This bill will define and ban the manufacture, offer for sale, sale, distribution, possession, or use of powdered alcohol, commonly referred to as "Palcohol."

The County of El Dorado supports collaboration among community partners to promote healthier and safer communities. The County's Alcohol and Drug Prevention Program, in particular, provides education and trainings, awareness campaigns, and efforts to reduce the sale and advertising of alcohol to minors. Alcohol in its traditional form is already recognized as a serious public health issue. Palcohol creates another pathway to alcohol abuse by minors, underage drinkers, and adult alcoholics.

According to the Director of Public Affairs at Alcohol Justice, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the promotion of evidence-based public health policies, California has the largest alcohol market in the United States and California residents suffer more alcohol-related harm than any other state. Equally alarming, the recent California Health Interview Survey results show that teenagers in El Dorado County are trying alcohol at higher rates than the State average.

Palcohol is already banned in several other states. Adoption of this bill would protect Californians, including El Dorado County residents, from potential negative health and other consequences, including abuse by youth. California should proudly join at least 25 other U.S. States that have already banned powdered alcohol.

Due to the anticipated impact of Palcohol on our community, the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors support AB 1554 to prevent additional alcohol-related harm.

Sincerely,

Ron Mikulaco, Chair  
Board of Supervisors  
El Dorado County