United Chamber Advocacy Network

El Dorado County Joint Chamber Commission; Elk Grove Chamber Commerce; Folsom Chamber of Commerce; Rancho Cordova Chamber of Commerce; Roseville Area Chamber of Commerce

Where You Can Make a Difference for Business in California!

April 12, 2018

Hon. Sharon Quirk-Silva Chair, Committee on Jobs, Economic Development and the Economy California State Assembly Legislative Office Building 1020 N Street, Room 359 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2687 (Quirk-Silva) re: Office of Small Business – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Quirk-Silva.

On behalf of the chambers of commerce that comprise the United Chamber Advocacy Network of California (UCAN) and their nearly 4800 combined members, I am writing to express our support for Assembly Bill 2687 which you have authored to establish the Small Business Assistance Program within the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz).

In a recent joint membership survey, the UCAN chambers asked "what is the top issue impacting your business' bottom line?" After the issues of taxes and regulations, over one third of respondents cited "California's overall business climate" as a barrier to their success. Clearly, while California leads the nation in job growth, this economic growth is not being felt in all sectors of the economy nor in all communities within California.

We appreciate that you and your colleagues understand and appreciate the role that small business has in the overall success of California's economy. Further, we appreciate the recognition that the state of California has a role and a responsibility to encourage the success of individual small businesses and to foster a positive business climate in the state.

By changing the name to the Office of Small Business from the Office of Small Business Advocate, you and your colleagues are positioning GO-Biz and the Deputy Director for Small Business to expand beyond the role of advocate to include cultivating resources for individual small businesses as well as crafting policy to benefit California's small businesses and enhance the state's overall business climate.

or these reasens and more, we respectfully urge the committee extend an "aye" vote on AB 2687.

Dave Butler

Advocate

United Chamber Advocacy Network

Members, Assembly Committee on Jobs, Economic Development and the Economy CC. Assemblymembers Ken Cooley, Frank Bigelow, Jim Cooper, Kevin Kiley

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