



March 16, 2022

The Honorable Ken Cooley  
California State Assembly  
1021 O St., Ste. 8310  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**SUBJECT: AB 1996 (COOLEY) STATE GOVERNMENT: ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS:  
REVIEW SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Cooley:

The California Chamber of Commerce and the organizations listed are pleased to **SUPPORT** your **AB 1996**. **AB 1996** will improve efficiency of government regulations by requiring state agencies to review and revise inconsistent, overlapping, or outdated regulations.

**AB 1996** requires that state agencies review existing regulations to determine whether those regulations are inconsistent, overlapping, or contain outdated provisions. It further directs the agencies to then adopt amendments to those regulations to eliminate those issues.

The broad authority given to regulatory agencies has led to voluminous regulations that are difficult to reconcile with one another and are sometimes outdated. This piecemeal process is especially problematic for our smallest businesses, which are doing their best to comply with limited resources. While this is an issue that has existed for some time, the growing number of laws and regulations that small businesses must keep track of has been exacerbated during COVID-19.

The Legislature has, on numerous occasions, has tried running bills to direct agencies to update or clean up these regulations. For example, in 2019, AB 457 was introduced to direct Cal/OSHA to update its outdated regulations regarding lead standards. This year, SB 1391 would require the State Air Resources Board to identify conflicting or overlapping policies regarding strategies to meet the state's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals. **AB 1996** provides a global solution by requiring all agencies to engage in internal reviews and preventing the need to rush regulatory updates through legislation. The bill will help harmonize the regulatory environment and will encourage compliance and productivity.

For these and other reasons, we are pleased to **SUPPORT** your **AB 1996**.

Sincerely,

Ashley Hoffman  
Policy Advocate  
California Chamber of Commerce

California Association of Health Facilities  
California Association of Winegrape Growers  
California Beer & Beverage Distributors  
California Grocers Association  
California League of Food Producers  
California Lodging Industry Association  
California Restaurant Association  
Family Business Association of California  
Humboldt and Mendocino Redwood Companies  
National Federation of Independent Business  
Official Police Garages Association of Los Angeles  
Pacific Merchant Shipping Association  
Western Electrical Contractors Association  
Western Growers Association

cc: Legislative Affairs, Office of the Governor

AH:am