RE: Position on SB 136 Local Option for Restaurants

Mr./Madame Chair and Committee Members:

The New Mexico Business Coalition (NMBC) represents hundreds of businesses and thousands of New Mexicans. Our focus is to make New Mexico a better place to do business so that New Mexicans have jobs and can provide for their families.

NMBC would like to state its position on SB 136 Local Option for Restaurants. We understand the challenges created by the original Liquor Control Act and believe it needs to be corrected for the benefit of the state, restaurant and bar owners and New Mexicans.

However, NMBC respectfully requests that any action taken to correct or modify the Liquor Control Act takes into consideration the financial investment and/or current value of liquor licenses currently owned. Many business owners have invested hundreds of thousands of dollars into the purchase of liquor licenses and to dilute that value legislatively could be financially devastating.

NMBC urges you to carefully consider how you can correct the issues in the Liquor Control Act without harming current liquor license holders.

Thank you,

Carla J. Sonntag
President