



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **ABL Statement on House Passage of the Combatting Organized Retail Crime Act**

**BETHESDA, MD** – American Beverage Licensees (ABL) issued the following statement after the U.S. House of Representatives yesterday passed the bipartisan Combatting Organized Retail Crime Act (CORCA) ([H.R. 2853](#)) by a [vote](#) of 348 -60:

“America’s beer, wine and spirits retailers applaud the House passage of the Combating Organized Retail Crime Act (CORCA), and urge the Senate to swiftly advance this important bipartisan legislation. Organized retail crime has become an increasingly sophisticated and dangerous threat to beverage alcohol retailers across the country, jeopardizing employee safety, disrupting local economies, and forcing many small, family-owned businesses to invest heavily in security measures simply to protect their workers and customers.

“Beverage alcohol retailers are uniquely vulnerable because alcohol products are high-value, easily resold commodities that are targeted by organized criminal enterprises, undermining the accountability and public safety protections that are central to states’ alcohol regulatory systems. ABL supports stronger coordination among federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to combat organized retail theft and protect Main Street businesses that serve communities nationwide.

“ABL thanks Representatives Dave Joyce (R-OH), David Valadao (D-CA), Michael Baumgartner (R-WA), Lou Correa (D-CA), Laurel Lee (R-FL), Susie Lee (D-NV), Brad Schneider (D-IL) and Dina Titus (D-NV) for their leadership on this important issue.”

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***American Beverage Licensees** is the preeminent national trade association for beverage alcohol retailers. Direct retail beverage alcohol sales in the United States generate more than 2.03 million well-paying jobs. ABL’s thousands of on-premise and off-premise licensee members are independent and often family-owned establishments. The beverage retailing industry pays over \$27.9 billion in federal taxes and \$20.0 billion in state and local taxes. To learn more about ABL, visit [www.ablusa.org](http://www.ablusa.org).*