



® May 10, 2017

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The Honorable Lorena S. Gonzalez Fletcher, Chair  
Assembly Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2114  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 1120 (Cooper) – Controlled Substances: Butane  
As Amended April 25, 2017 – SUPPORT  
Awaiting Hearing in Assembly Appropriations Committee**

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez Fletcher,

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) writes in support of AB 1120 (Cooper), a measure that would limit the purchase of butane in California. AB 1120 will help regulate this flammable solvent that poses significant risk to life safety.

Butane is a solvent that is explosive, colorless, odorless, and heavier than air. It can be sold over the counter in canisters that are pressurized to contain the compressed and highly flammable gas. Butane can be used to produce various cannabis products, as the butane can strip plant matter of cannabinoid-containing oils to produce butane honey oil.

AB 1120 would limit the sale of butane to no more than 600 milliliters per person per 30-day period. The limitation would have exceptions for resale and for use in a lawful commercial enterprise like a medical cannabis collective operating in compliance with state and local regulations. AB 1120 would also require the sellers to record information about butane sales, and to retain the information for a set amount of time. Subject to a budget appropriation, the Department of Justice would create a database to track butane sales, and would require sellers of butane to submit a quarterly report. This database would allow for a centralized method for tracking the sale of this potentially dangerous substance.

Several counties and cities in California have local ordinances that limit or prohibit the use of products like butane in the cultivation or processing of cannabis as they have been experiencing an increasing number of incidents related to this hazardous material. Explosions associated with using butane to produce cannabis products can lead to secondary explosions and fires, and in some cases have resulted in deaths. This poses a significant threat to our communities as well as our firefighters and public safety officials.

It is for these reasons that CSAC supports AB 1120. If you have any questions about our position, please do not hesitate to contact me at [cmartinson@counties.org](mailto:cmartinson@counties.org) or 916-327-7500, ext. 504.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cara Martinson'.

Cara Martinson  
Legislative Representative

Cc: Assembly Member Jim Cooper  
Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Jennifer Galehouse, Deputy Chief Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
John Kennedy, Assembly Republican Consultant