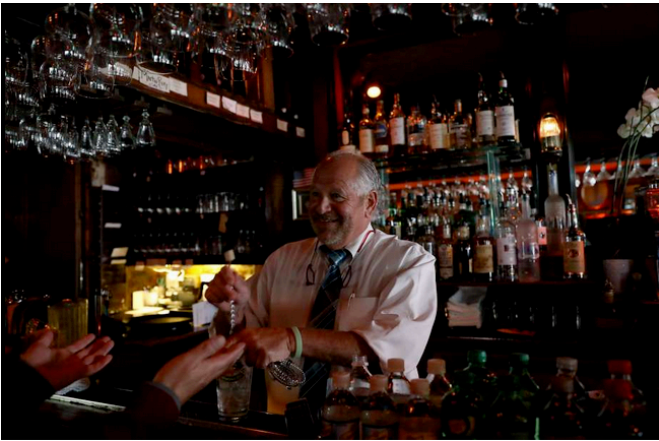


Bill to let San Francisco and Oakland test 4 a.m. closing time for bars clears Assembly

Melody Gutierrez | on August 29, 2018

SACRAMENTO — Nine California cities, including San Francisco and Oakland, could allow their bars to stay open until 4 a.m. under a bill that is on the verge of passing the Legislature and heading to Gov. Jerry Brown.



Under [SB905](#) by state Sen. Scott Wiener, D-San Francisco, the cities could participate in a five-year pilot program allowing bars, nightclubs and restaurants to serve alcohol until 4 a.m., two hours later than currently allowed.

The bill passed the Assembly 46-14 Wednesday and is pending in the Senate, where a version has already passed once. If approved by the Senate before Friday's legislative deadline, SB905 would go to Brown, who would have until Sept. 30 to sign it, veto it or let it become law without his signature. Brown

has not indicated whether he would approve the bill.

Besides San Francisco and Oakland, the cities that could extend their last call would be Sacramento, Los Angeles, Long Beach, West Hollywood, Palm Springs, and the Riverside County cities of Cathedral City and Coachella.

Those cities were included because their mayors expressed an interest in participating in the pilot program. Each city would still have to decide if it wanted to extend nightlife times and could tailor the added hours in any fashion, including limiting them to certain days or neighborhoods.

Opponents, including the advocacy groups Alcohol Justice and California Alcohol Policy Alliance, say extending bar hours will mean that late-night drinkers will be on the road with early-morning commuters and will lead to an increase in drunken-driving accidents and deaths.

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