



## New Jersey General Assembly

January 14, 2021

The Honorable Phil Murphy  
Governor, the State of New Jersey  
225 West State Street  
Trenton, NJ  
08625

### **Re: Proposal to Open Bars Until 12 A.M. on Super Bowl Sunday**

Dear Governor Murphy and Commissioner Persichilli:

Let me begin by thanking you for your leadership during this unprecedented time. The COVID-19 pandemic has lasted nearly a year. Your commitment and tireless efforts to protect the public of New Jersey deserve unconditional praise.

I am writing to formally request you consider allowing bars to remain open until the end of the Super Bowl scheduled for February 7<sup>th</sup>. I understand the reasons for closing bars at 10:00 P.M. I hear echoes of my mother, "Nothing good happens after midnight." I believe that this policy has helped reduce the spread of COVID-19. However, as we witnessed throughout the pandemic and especially during the holidays, individuals will continue to gather in large groups for specific celebrations.

I write because I am concerned that the closure of bars at 10:00 P.M. will force many individuals to gather in homes. Our experience informs us that we are less precautionary in this setting than we are in a public setting. Therefore, these house parties pose a greater risk of becoming super spreader events.

Leaving the bars open an estimated extra two hours would have an additional economic benefit. For many of these businesses, an entire year of events was lost – from Saint Patrick’s Day to Fourth of July to the Wednesday before Thanksgiving gatherings.

Based upon the above, I ask you to allow bars to remain open for until the game is over, but no later than 12:00 A.M.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicholas A. Chiaravalloti". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'N'.

Nicholas A. Chiaravalloti  
New Jersey Assembly District 31

CC: The Honorable Judith M. Persichilli