



## **NCA Statement on exemption of coffee from Proposition 65 by OEHHA**

### **NCA Applauds State of California's Exemption of Coffee from Proposition 65**

**NEW YORK, NY [May 31, 2019]** – The National Coffee Association USA (NCA) today applauded the State of California's formal recognition that coffee should not carry a Proposition 65 "cancer warning" due to naturally occurring compounds formed when coffee is roasted.

California's state regulator, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), concluded the substantial weight of evidence in scientific literature shows no association between coffee and a risk of cancer.

"This is a great day for science and coffee lovers. With this news, coffee drinkers around the world can wake up and enjoy the smell and taste of their coffee without hesitation. Scientists everywhere, the WHO, and now the good State of California agree that coffee drinkers may be protected from some cancers by their favorite beverage," said NCA President & CEO William (Bill) Murray.

More than 500 published, high quality peer-reviewed human studies, covering several million people, have concluded that no connection exists between coffee and cancer, findings which have been confirmed and endorsed by the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer.

"We represent an industry that brews the number one source of antioxidants in the US diet. Dozens of studies suggest that coffee drinkers live longer, have healthier hearts and are happier," added Bill Murray.

OEHHA first announced its intention to remove coffee from Prop 65 in June 2018, initiating a period of rigorous public consultation, peer review by the Carcinogen Identification Committee



and approval by the California Office of Administrative Law (OAL) before the finalization of today's ruling.

-ENDS-

For further information, contact [coffee@thisisredflag.com](mailto:coffee@thisisredflag.com) or Jordan Campbell, Red Flag at +1 (202) 809 2501

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#### **About the National Coffee Association**

The National Coffee Association of U.S.A., Inc. (NCA), established in 1911, is the leading trade organization for the coffee industry in the United States. The NCA is the only trade association that serves all segments of the U.S. coffee industry, including traditional and specialty companies. A majority of NCA membership, which accounts for over 90% of U.S. coffee commerce, is comprised of small and mid-sized companies and includes growers, roasters, retailers, importer/exporters, wholesaler/suppliers, and allied industry businesses. Visit [ncausa.org](http://ncausa.org) to learn more.

**On the World Health Organization's Findings of Coffee and Cancer:** The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), a division of the World Health Organization, published its full assessment of coffee in June 2018. IARC's assessment shows coffee as non-classifiable as a carcinogen (category 3).

<http://publications.iarc.fr/publications/media/download/4860/0afee84c406758fd7342ea763c3ca8408a39a91f.pdf>