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July 20, 2020

Cameron Smyth Mayor

Bill Miranda Mayor Pro Tem

Bob Kellar Councilmember

Marsha McLean Councilmember

Laurene Weste Councilmember The Honorable David Chiu California State Assembly, District 17 P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249

SUBJECT: AB 3269 (CHIU): OPPOSE

Dear Assembly Member Chiu:

On behalf of the City of Santa Clarita (City), I am writing to respectfully express our opposition to AB 3269, related to homelessness and local land use authority. At the regular meeting on July 14, 2020, the Santa Clarita City Council voted unanimously to oppose this measure.

While we appreciate your goal to reduce homelessness, AB 3269 appears to be a punitive measure to preempt local land use authority. Addressing homelessness requires a comprehensive approach that includes a range of resources, services, and coordination. This bill does not acknowledge the complexity and unique circumstances that individuals and communities face in addressing this issue.

The City is committed to increasing service capacity and resources to assist local service providers and the local homeless population to ensure the health and safety of all residents. In an effort to support local initiatives, the City donated more than \$1 million of property and resources to one of the primary local service providers, Bridge to Home, to develop a year-round shelter. Additionally, the City has hired consultants to develop a citywide action plan to address homelessness and established a local Homelessness Task Force comprised of more than 30 key stakeholders within the community.

The City of Santa Clarita has the tools, knowledge, and policies in place to continue to plan and develop innovative homelessness solutions to support local service providers and further combat homelessness. It is critical for the City of Santa Clarita to maintain local land use authority and have the ability to leverage resources and partnerships in an effort to reduce homelessness.



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For these reasons, the City of Santa Clarita opposes AB 3269 as amended on July 2, 2020. We look forward to working with you to address our concerns. Should you or your staff require any further information regarding the Santa Clarita City Council's position on this bill, please feel free to contact Intergovernmental Relations Analyst Masis Hagobian at (661) 286-4057 or mhagobian@santa-clarita.com.

Sincerely,

Cameron Smyth

Mayor

CS:MH:sk

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cc: Members of the City Council

Senator Scott Wilk

Senator Henry Stern

Assembly Member Christy Smith

Assembly Member Tom Lackey

Kenneth W. Striplin, City Manager

Frank Oviedo, Assistant City Manager

Leadership Team

Masis Hagobian, Intergovernmental Relations Analyst

Jennifer Quan, League of California Cities

Joe A. Gonsalves & Son