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July 1, 2022

The Honorable Richard Pan

California State Senate, District 6

1021 O Street, Suite 7320

Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Pan:

Jason Gibbs Mayor Pro Tem

Laurene Weste

Mayor

SUBJECT: SB 1479 (PAN): OPPOSE

Marsha McLean Councilmember

On behalf of the City of Santa Clarita (City), I am writing to respectfully express our opposition to Senate Bill 1479, related to the development and implementation of COVID-19 testing plans by school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools. The Santa Clarita City Council voted unanimously to oppose this measure at their regular meeting on June 14, 2022.

Bill Miranda Councilmember

While we recognize the intent to combat COVID-19 infections, health care initiatives and testing should remain with public health agencies and that education-based agencies should continue to focus on student education.

Cameron Smyth Councilmember

As the COVID-19 Pandemic has created unprecedented challenges, governments must carefully balance the interest in maintaining public health with protecting privacy rights and access to basic care. To this end, we believe that Senate Bill 1479 places onerous state mandates on education-based agencies.

For these reasons, the City of Santa Clarita respectfully opposes Senate Bill 1479. Should you or your staff require any further information regarding our position on this bill, please feel free to contact Intergovernmental Relations Officer Masis Hagobian at (661) 286-4057 or mhagobian@santa-clarita.com.

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Sincerely

Laurene Weste

Mayor





Honorable Richard Pan July 1, 2022 Page 2

LW:MH:vd

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cc: Members of the City Council
Senator Scott Wilk
Senator Henry Stern
Assemblywoman Suzette Valladares
Assembly Member Tom Lackey
Kenneth W. Striplin, City Manager
Frank Oviedo, Assistant City Manager
Leadership Team
Masis Hagobian, Intergovernmental Relations Officer
Jennifer Quan, League of California Cities
California Contract Cities Association
Joe A. Gonsalves & Son