



City of  
**SANTA CLARITA**

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July 17, 2023

Jason Gibbs  
Mayor

The Honorable Carlos Villapudua  
California State Assembly, District 13  
1021 O Street, Room 6340  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Cameron Smyth  
Mayor Pro Tem

Dear Assembly Member Villapudua:

SUBJECT: AB 701 (VILLAPUDUA): SUPPORT

Marsha McLean  
Councilmember

On behalf of the Santa Clarita City Council, I am writing to express our support for Assembly Bill 701, relating to adding fentanyl to the list of substances subject to weight enhancements. The Santa Clarita City Council voted unanimously to support this measure on July 11, 2023.

Bill Miranda  
Councilmember

The opioid epidemic has become a nationwide issue affecting communities across the state and country, including the City of Santa Clarita (City). Moreover, the growing prevalence of fentanyl has only exacerbated the opioid epidemic and the danger it poses across our communities, especially our youth.

Laurene Weste  
Councilmember

Recent reports, citing preliminary 2021 data from the California Department of Public Health, indicate there were 7,175 opioid-related overdose deaths in California; 5,961 or nearly 84 percent of these deaths were caused by fentanyl. In that same year, there were 224 fentanyl-related overdose deaths among teens ages 15–19 years old in California. At the local level, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department reported 32 overdoses, last year, in the Santa Clarita Valley as a result of fentanyl.


This critical piece of legislation holds those distributing large quantities of fentanyl accountable to the full extent of the law.

For these reasons, the City of Santa Clarita strongly supports Assembly Bill 701. 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](mailto:mhagobian@santa-clarita.com).



Honorable Carlos Villapudua  
July 17, 2023  
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Sincerely,



Jason Gibbs  
Mayor

JG:MH:vd

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cc: Members of the City Council  
Senator Scott Wilk  
Assemblywoman Pilar Schiavo  
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