



City of
SANTA CLARITA

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July 17, 2023

Jason Gibbs
Mayor

The Honorable Freddie Rodriguez
California State Assembly, District 53
1021 O Street, Room 5250
Sacramento, CA 95814

Cameron Smyth
Mayor Pro Tem

Dear Assembly Member Rodriguez:

Marsha McLean
Councilmember

SUBJECT: AB 474 (RODRIGUEZ): SUPPORT

Bill Miranda
Councilmember

On behalf of the Santa Clarita City Council, I am writing to express our support for Assembly Bill 474, related to requiring the State Threat Assessment Center and the California Office of Emergency Services to prioritize cooperation with state and local efforts to disrupt and dismantle criminal networks trafficking opioid drugs that pose a threat to California.

Laurene Weste
Councilmember

The Santa Clarita City Council voted unanimously to support this measure on July 11, 2023. The opioid epidemic has become a nationwide issue affecting communities across the state and country, including the City of Santa Clarita (City). In 2022, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department reported 32 overdoses in the Santa Clarita Valley as a result of fentanyl.

Moreover, the growing prevalence of fentanyl has only exacerbated the opioid epidemic and the danger it poses across our communities, especially our youth. 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.

Assembly Bill 474 is most welcomed and appreciated as this critical piece of legislation significantly enhances collaboration between state and local law enforcement agencies to combat this deadly epidemic.



Honorable Freddie Rodriguez
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For these reasons, the City of Santa Clarita strongly supports Assembly Bill 474. 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.

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
Leadership Team
Masis Hagobian, Intergovernmental Relations Officer
Jennifer Quan, League of California Cities
California Contract Cities Association
Joe A. Gonsalves & Son