



City of  
**SANTA CLARITA**

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April 9, 2024

Cameron Smyth  
Mayor

The Honorable Esmeralda Soria  
California State Assembly, District 27  
1021 O Street, Suite 4110  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Bill Miranda  
Mayor Pro Tem

Dear Assembly Member Soria:

SUBJECT: AB 3171 (SORIA): SUPPORT

Jason Gibbs  
Councilmember

On behalf of the Santa Clarita City Council, I am writing to express our support for Assembly Bill 3171, related to imposing a sentence enhancement for the possession with the intent to sell fentanyl. The Santa Clarita City Council voted unanimously to support this measure on March 26, 2024.

Marsha McLean  
Councilmember

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

Laurene Weste  
Councilmember

As you may know, in 2021 more than 80,000 people died from a synthetic opioid-related drug overdose in the United States according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Based on preliminary 2022 data from the California Department of Public Health, there were 7,385 opioid-related overdose deaths and 6,473 deaths specifically related to fentanyl overdoses.

At the local level, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department reported 17 overdoses in the Santa Clarita Valley as a result of fentanyl in 2023. This critical piece of legislation brings awareness to the dangers of fentanyl and holds those distributing the drug accountable to the full extent of the law.

For these reasons, the City strongly supports Assembly Bill 3171. Should you or your staff require any further information regarding our position on this bill,



Honorable Esmeralda Soria

April 9, 2024

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please contact Masis Hagobian, Intergovernmental Relations Officer, at (661) 286-4057 or [mhagobian@santa-clarita.com](mailto:mhagobian@santa-clarita.com).

Sincerely,



Cameron Smyth

Mayor

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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  
California Contract Cities Association  
Joe A. Gonsalves & Son