



# City of Encinitas

Office of  
The Mayor

June 18, 2019

The Honorable Jim Beall  
Chair, Senate Transportation  
California State Capitol, Room 2082  
Sacramento, CA 95814

*Catherine S. Blakespear*  
Mayor

**RE: AB 516 (Chiu) Authority to Remove Vehicles.**  
**Notice of Opposition**

Dear Senator Beall,

*Jody Hubbard*  
Deputy Mayor

The City of Encinitas is **Opposed** to AB 516 (Chiu), a measure that would eliminate the ability for local governments to adequately enforce state and local vehicle violations.

*Kellie Shay Hinze*  
Council Member

AB 516 would eliminate enforcement tools to address motorists who disregard basic laws designed to benefit our entire community. Specifically, the measure would eliminate the ability for the City of Encinitas to:

- “Immobilize,” or place a boot on a vehicle, for motorists who have five or more unpaid parking tickets
- Remove vehicles with expired registration that are operating illegally
- Remove vehicles in violation of parking time restrictions

*Tony Kranz*  
Council Member

The immobilization of a vehicle is only used when someone has five or more unpaid parking tickets and has ignored the payment plans offered to them by the City of Encinitas, as established by recently chaptered bills AB 503 (2017) and AB 2544 (2018). The City of Encinitas provides a payment plan to reduce financial burdens on persons for whom a fine may be a burden. This is a fair process that allows low-income individuals to pay their outstanding parking citations without impacting their ability to maintain their livelihood.

*Joe Mosca*  
Council Member

The authority to remove vehicles that are operating unlawfully for failing to register within six months is an essential enforcement tool for violation of state and local laws aimed at requiring insurance, keeping our air clean, our storm drains free of pollution, and our streets safe. Motorists that allow their vehicle registration to expire for more than 6 months are not only in gross violation of state law, but are rejecting their basic responsibility to pay for various programs and services collected with their registration.

*Karen P. Brust*  
City Manager

The approach in AB 516 rewards people who fail to pay their parking tickets, register their vehicles, or adhere to reasonable policies aimed at preventing abandonment and/or street storage of vehicles, regardless of income. Eliminating proportional consequences for these sorts of vehicle violations will exacerbate parking scarcity by creating an environment vulnerable for exploitation. This bill, coupled with efforts by the state aimed at eliminating local parking minimums, will create quality of life concerns across income demographics in California.

For these reasons the City of Encinitas **Opposes** AB 516.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Blakespear', written in a cursive style.

Catherine Blakespear, Mayor  
City of Encinitas

CC: Senator Patricia Bates  
Assembly Member Tasha Boerner Horvath  
JGC Governmental Relations  
Catherine Hill, League of California Cities  
Encinitas Mayor and Council Members  
Encinitas City Manager, Karen P. Brust