



City of Encinitas

Office of
The Mayor

July 11, 2017

The Honorable Darrell Issa
United States House of Representatives
Rayburn House Office Building, Room 2269
Washington, DC 20515

Catherine S. Blakespear
Mayor

**RE: H.R. 472 (Issa) Safe Recovery and Community Empowerment Act
LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Dear Congressman Issa:

Tony Kranz
Deputy Mayor

The City of Encinitas supports H.R. 472, the Safe Recovery and Community Empowerment Act, and looks forward to the successful passage of this bill. Our city, similar to other coastal cities, is host to a number of residential rehabilitation homes, which provide a safe environment for recovering drug addicts and alcoholics. As long as the residential rehab homes house no more than six clients, local government can currently do nothing to restrict operation of these facilities in residential neighborhoods, regardless of their impact on community character. Likewise, the operators of these residential rehab homes can have no licensing requirements imposed by state or local government due restrictions by the Federal Fair Housing Act, even when the rehab home does not offer the environment as intended in the law.

Tasha Boerner Horvath
Council Member

This bill introduces positive measures on both accounts. If local government desires, it can adopt local, municipal codes requiring minimum site distancing between residential rehab homes. So if placement of numerous rehab homes in close proximity impacts the community character in the local jurisdiction, this bill will enable local, elected officials to establish minimum site distancing in municipal code. This provides a modicum of local land use control. This will prevent the creation of residential rehab home campuses, as the City of Encinitas and others have experienced.

Mark Muir
Council Member

This bill also provides some protections for clients of these rehab homes, by requiring an operator's license and establishing consumer protection standards. In addition, this requirement will allow local government to track the placement of these rehab homes for compliance with local site distancing requirements.

Joe Mosca
Council Member

The impacts of H.R. 472 will be positive for the City of Encinitas, and for the clients in residential rehab homes. For these reasons, the City of Encinitas supports your bill.

Karen P. Brust
City Manager

Sincerely,


Tony Kranz
Deputy Mayor

cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Kamala Harris
Carpi & Clay
Catherine Hill, League of California Cities
City Council
Development Services Department