



# City of Encinitas

Office of  
The Mayor

March 23, 2016

The Honorable Carol Liu  
California State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 5097  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
FAX: (916) 651-4925

*Kristin Gaspar*  
Mayor

**RE: SB 876 (Liu) Homelessness  
Notice of OPPOSITION, as Amended 2/22/16**

Dear Senator Liu:

*Catherine S. Blakespear*  
Deputy Mayor

The City of Encinitas opposes Senate Bill 876 (Liu) regarding homelessness.

*Tony Kranz*  
Council Member

This measure is preempting local authority to address important issues affecting public health and safety in public spaces, and on private property that is held open to the public, including but not limited to, plazas, courtyards, parking lots, sidewalks, public transportation facilities, public buildings, shopping centers and parks. We recognize that this measure is well intentioned; however, local agencies must continue to be able to protect the public, health, safety and welfare of their communities. Moreover, we do not believe this measure will make a positive impact in the effort to address chronic homelessness.

*Mark Muir*  
Council Member

Removing local enforcement authority, as you propose in SB 876, will do nothing to help the problem, and would actually undermine existing efforts. SB 876 contains no solutions for ending homelessness. In fact, the bill specifically states, "Passing this Act will not reduce homelessness."

*Lisa Shaffer*  
Council Member

The key to getting people off of the streets is to provide more shelter. We need resources: permanent housing beds and accompanying social services such as mental health treatment, job training, addiction counseling, etc. Cities and other local agencies need more funding and flexibility to provide these proven programs.

*Karen P. Brust*  
City Manager

The City of Encinitas is working with Interfaith Communities and our Community Resource Center to align homeless veterans and chronic homeless with permanent housing. This effort is aligned with the Federal Department of Veteran's Affairs 25 Cities Initiative. The amendments offered in your bill remove local authority to enforce ordinances, and could worsen the problem by removing incentives for taking advantage of existing resources and services. We would prefer that you help provide State funding that could be directed towards permanent housing solutions for this population.

For these reasons, the City of Encinitas opposes SB 876 (Liu).

Sincerely,

Kristin Gaspar, Mayor

cc: Senator Patricia Bates, fax: (916) 651-4936  
Assembly Member Rocky Chavez, fax: (916) 319-2176  
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