



April 28, 2014

The Honorable Susan Bonilla
California State Assembly
State Capitol Building, Room 4140
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1147 (Bonilla, Gomez, Holden). Massage Therapy Act of 2014. (as Amended on April 23, 2014) Notice of SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Bonilla:

The Los Angeles County Division of the League of California Cities (Division), representing 86 cities in the county, supports AB 1147 which would completely revise and recast the law pertaining to massage therapy. We greatly appreciate the authors' assistance in crafting legislation that would fix the unintended consequences of SB 731 (2008) and give tools to local governments to address establishments that are masquerading as massage businesses but are really involved in human trafficking.

The League of California Cities and the Division have been very involved in this issue and has been asking for three issues to be addressed: 1) that the California Massage Therapy Council (CAMTC) be replaced with a board or commission, 2) that businesses that employ massage professionals be regulated and local governments be allowed to apply reasonable regulations to massage businesses, and 3) local governments be authorized to recoup their costs of protecting the public. We believe AB 1147 addresses all of the concerns raised by the League and as such we fully support AB 1147.

Most importantly, the bill returns land use control back to the cities and counties as well as explicitly authorizes local governments to adopt ordinances to require massage establishments to comply with reasonable health and safety requirements and abide by hours of operation. While AB 1147 does not replace CAMTC with a board or commission, it does reconstitute the CAMTC's board and adds public members as well as a position for a police chief. Finally, the bill would authorize jurisdictions to collect regulatory fees in accordance to Proposition 26 as well as pay business license taxes.

For these reasons, the Los Angeles County Division supports AB 1147. Should you have any further questions or need additional information, please contact Kristine Guerrero at (626) 716-0076 or kguerrero@cacities.org,

Sincerely,

Ling-Ling Chang
Council Member, Diamond Bar
President, Los Angeles County Division

**2013-14 OFFICERS AND
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

PRESIDENT
LING LING CHANG
DIAMOND BAR

VICE PRESIDENT
STEVEN LY
ROSEMEAD

SECRETARY
CAROL CHEN
CERRITOS

TREASURER
MICHEÁL O'LEARY
CULVER CITY

STATE LEAGUE DIRECTOR
OWEN NEWCOMER
WHITTIER

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

ARROYO VERDUGO CITIES
LAURA FRIEDMAN
GLENDALE

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
JOHN WICKHAM
LOS ANGELES

GATEWAY CITIES COG
LARRY FORESTER
SIGNAL HILL

LAS VIRGENES-MALIBU COG
MARK RUTHERFORD
WESTLAKE VILLAGE

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COG
SAM PEDROZA
CLAREMONT

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY COG
JESS TALAMANTES
BURBANK

SOUTH BAY CITIES COG
JIM GOODHART
PALOS VERDES ESTATES

WESTSIDE CITIES COG
DR. WILLIE BRIEN
BEVERLY HILLS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JENNIFER QUAN

cc: Assembly Member Holden
Assembly Member Gomez
Chair and Members, Senate Business and Professions Committee
Bill Gage, Consultant, Senate Business and Professions Committee
Kayla Williams, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus

Please note: As part of its expanded advocacy program, the Los Angeles Division of the League of California Cities is now tracking votes of Los Angeles area Legislators and will issue a report at the conclusion of the legislative session to all its member cities regarding the consistency of legislators' votes with the positions of the Los Angeles Division of the League of California Cities.