

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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JANICE HAHN CHAIR PRO-TEM

June 19, 2018

The Honorable Robert Garcia Mayor, City of Long Beach 333 West Ocean Boulevard, 14th Floor Long Beach, California 90802

Dear Mayor Garcia:

I would like to thank Councilmember Jeannine Pearce for introducing this agenda item that would establish a Suicide Prevention Plan. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention reports that over the last two decades suicide rates have increased across the nation. In fact, suicide is now the 11th leading cause of death in California and 2nd leading cause of death for ages 25-34.

The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health has established an ACCESS Center which is designed to facilitate connections to crisis intervention and the Psychiatric Mobile Response Team 24 hours, 7 days a week for all LA County residents. Through their Youth Suicide Prevention Project, the County of Los Angeles also provides outreach and support to schools, parents and high risk youth populations. Please count on the County of Los Angeles as a resource.

The topic of suicide is a difficult but important conversation communities need to have. I am proud of the leadership the City of Long Beach is demonstrating to educate the community on suicide risk factors as well as strategies for outreach, support and prevention. I look forward to expanding our partnership in addressing this serious issue.

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Sincerely,

JANICE HAHN Chair Pro-Tem

Supervisor, Fourth District

County of Los Angles

JH:hc

c: Each Councilmember City of Long Beach