

MAYOR BOB FOSTER

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June 9, 2008

The Honorable Anthony Adams California State Assembly State Capitol, Room 4015 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Original Language and Intent for AB 2593 (Adams) – Sex Offenders: Parole

Dear Assemblymember Adams:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am writing to express our wholehearted support for Assembly Bill (AB) 2593 – Sex Offenders: Parole, <u>as originally amended on April</u> <u>3, 2008</u>. The original language and intent of AB 2593 was to further provide cities and counties with the ability to adopt local ordinances to include residential facilities that serve six or fewer persons, including sober living facilities, within the definition of "single family dwelling" for the purposes of restricting where registered sex offenders are able to reside.

As the fifth largest city in the State and the second largest city in Los Angeles County, the City of Long Beach has experienced first hand the negative impacts that poorly planned placement of registered sex offenders by state law enforcement agencies can have on a local community's safety and quality of life. Earlier this year, nineteen registered sex offenders were found to be residing within the same multi-family dwelling occupied by young children and located within close proximity to a child daycare center and neighborhood park here in Long Beach.

Long Beach, like many other cities across California, suffers from an overconcentration of sober living facilities. As long as these facilities only serve six residents or less, they are not currently required to register for city business licenses, state licenses, or obtain conditional use permits. Under current state law, local governments lack the authority to monitor, regulate, and enforce residency requirements at these facilities.

I strongly urge you to restore the original language and intent of AB 2593 and provide local governments across the State with the expanded legal authority to create ordinances that eliminate the clustering of registered sex offenders in sober living facilities. The chief priority of cities and counties throughout California has been and always will be

maintaining the safety and well-being of local residents, and the passage of AB 2593, as originally intended, will help us to meet this important goal

Sincerely,

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Mayor Bob Foster

City of Long Beach

CC: The Honorable Edward Vincent, State Senate, 25th District The Honorable Alan Lowenthal, State Senate, 27th District The Honorable Jenny Oropeza, State Senate, 28th District The Honorable Betty Karnette, State Assembly, 54th District Patrick H. West, City Manager