



March 29, 2018

The Honorable Laura Friedman
California State Assembly
State Capitol Building, Room 2137
Sacramento, CA 95814
VIA FAX: 916-319-2143

Re: AB 3162 (Friedman) – Alcoholism or drug abuse recovery or treatment facilities. Notice of Support

Dear Assembly Member Friedman:

The Los Angeles County Division of the League of California Cities®, representing 86 cities in the county, supports AB 3162 (Friedman), which would help maintain residential neighborhoods as a therapeutic environment for the social integration of disabled persons, including recovering alcoholics and addicts. Specifically, the bill reforms outdated regulations for the licensing of residential drug and alcohol treatment facilities to enable authority for the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to ensure compliance with existing licensing laws.

Residential drug and alcohol treatment facilities provide valuable rehabilitation and supportive services in a therapeutic environment, which can benefit both individual patients and the greater community. However, the single licensed rehabilitation facility nested into the fabric of a community has been taken over by companies that have created multi-structure, campus-style facilities within a residentially zoned neighborhood. Many of these facility operators continue to operate multistructure facilities and pay minimal fines because of the existing penalty structure.

AB 3162 updates fines for non-compliance to be more commensurate with similar licensing fines to provide an additional incentive for companies to comply with the law and provide the needed care for the patients. The bill also clarifies existing law and enables DHCS to enforce its policies by specifying that all services under a license must be carried out at the specific physical location of the license and allows DHCS to deny a new license application if a facility is located within 300 feet of an existing facility. In addition, it establishes a one-year provisional license to serve as a probationary period for new licenses so that DHCS has time to analyze and determine compliance with regulations.

For these reasons, the Los Angeles County Division supports AB 3162.

Sincerely,

Miguel Canales
President, Los Angeles County Division
League of California Cities®

**2017-18 OFFICERS AND
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

PRESIDENT
MIGUEL CANALES
ARTESIA

VICE PRESIDENT
JENNIFER KING
PALOS VERDES ESTATES

SECRETARY/TREASURER
JUAN GARZA
BELLFLOWER

STATE LEAGUE DIRECTOR
JORGE MORALES
SOUTH GATE

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
JESS A. TALAMANTES
BURBANK

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

ARROYO VERDUGO JPA
MARINA KHUBESRIAN
SOUTH PASADENA

GATEWAY CITIES COG
LARRY FORESTER
SIGNAL HILL

LAS VIRGENES-MALIBU COG
BRAD HALPERN
WESTLAKE VILLAGE

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY COG
EMILY GABEL-LUDDY
BURBANK

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COG
SAM PEDROZA
CLAREMONT

SOUTH BAY CITIES COG
BEA DIERINGER
ROLLING HILLS

WESTSIDE CITIES COG
LINDSEY HORVATH
WEST HOLLYWOOD

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
JOHN WICKHAM
LOS ANGELES

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JENNIFER QUAN

CC: Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation