June 19, 2014

The Honorable Chair Susan Bonilla
Assembly Business, Professions and Consumer Protection Committee
California State Assembly Member, District 14
State Capitol Building, Room 4140
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assembly Member Bonilla:

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

The City of Colton joins the League of California Cities in supporting your Assembly Bill 1147, as amended on April 23, 2014. AB 1147 allows 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) that local governments be authorized to recuperate their costs of protecting the public.

Most importantly, AB 1147 returns land use controls back to the local governments by explicitly authorizing the adoption of ordinances that 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, AB 1147 would authorize jurisdictions to collect regulatory fees in accordance to Proposition 26 as well as pay business license taxes.

Sustaining the quality of life is at the forefront of Colton’s priorities. AB 1147 would give us the authority to regulate those undesirable and less than honorable businesses from engaging in prostitution and human trafficking within our community. The passage of AB 1147 is destined to completely revise and recast the law pertaining to massage therapy. It is for all these reasons that the City of Colton supports AB 1147.

Sincerely,

Mayor Sarah S. Zamora

cc: Members of the Colton City Council
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    State Senator Norma Torres, Dist. 32, fx: (916) 651-4032 / (909) 591-7096
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