



August 19, 2014

Honorable Carol Liu
State Senator – 25th District
Sacramento, CA 95814
Via FAX: (916) 651.4925

RE: AB 1147 (Bonilla, Gomez, Holden) Massage Therapy Act of 2014. (As amended on August 4, 2014) - Notice of SUPPORT

Dear Senator Liu:

The City of Glendora urges your aye vote on Assembly Bill (AB) 1147, which would return tools to local governments allowing them to close down businesses masquerading as massage establishments that are in fact illicit establishments that in some cases engage in human trafficking.

In its current form, AB 1147 balances the interests of legitimate massage establishments while providing tools to local governments to address illegal activity. The bill recognizes the right of a massage professional to engage in massage that falls within the professionally recognized scope of practice, prohibits local jurisdictions from regulating massage as adult entertainment, and shifts the responsibility for the professional conduct of certified individuals to the California Massage Therapy Council.

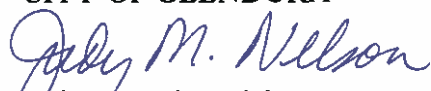
We further encourage you to *oppose* efforts to weaken the provisions in AB 1147 that would provide exemptions to subsets of massage practitioners. Any attempt to provide exemptions, whether for sole practitioners or mega-chain businesses, provides additional incentives for the criminal element to use the exemption for their benefit.

Ensuring that local legislative bodies have the necessary ability to manage land use and zoning authority is a critical element to making sure any business use does not become a nuisance to neighboring tenants or residential neighborhoods. AB 1147 restores a significant portion of the land use and zoning authority that previously was available to local government.

For these reasons, the City of Glendora urges you to oppose any effort to make changes to AB 1147.

Sincerely,

CITY OF GLENDORA


Judy M. Nelson, Mayor

cc: Glendora City Council Members
Jennifer Quan, Regional Public Affairs Manager – League of CA Cities
Joe A. Gonsalves & Son