April 30, 2014

The Honorable Susan Bonilla
Member, California State Assembly
State Capitol Building, Room 4140
Sacramento, CA 95814
Via FAX: (916) 319-2114

Notice of SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Bonilla:

The City of Rancho Cucamonga SUPPORTS your AB 1147, which would completely revise and recast the law pertaining to massage therapy and return land use authority back to cities. This bill would fix the unintended consequences that resulted from SB 731 (2008) and give tools to local governments to address establishments that participate in illegal activities.

Since the enactment of SB 731, cities have seen a tremendous increase the number of massage parlors, many of which are illicit establishments. In Rancho Cucamonga, the number of massage establishments increased from four (4) in 2009 to 37 in 2014. Since there is no way for cities to regulate this industry, businesses claiming to use only certified massage therapists go unregulated.

This bill will return land use control back to the cities and counties and authorize local governments to adopt ordinances that would require a registered massage establishment to obtain a license, permit or other authorization as long as that license, permit or other authorization is required of any other individual or business providing professional services. Having this authority returned to cities will allow local governments to prevent businesses operating under the auspices of massage therapy from engaging in prostitution and human trafficking.

For these reasons, the City of Rancho Cucamonga SUPPORTS AB 1147.

Sincerely,

L. Dennis Michael
Mayor

cc: Senator Mike Morrell
Assembly Member Chris Holden
Members of the City Council
John Gillison, City Manager
Meg Desmond, League of California Cities, mdesmond@cacities.org
Laura Morales, League of California Cities
Gonsalves and Son