June 12, 2014

The Honorable Susan Bonilla  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol Building, Room 4140  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support of Assembly Bill 1147 (Bonilla) from the City of San Leandro

Dear Assemblymember Bonilla:

The City of San Leandro supports Assembly Bill 1147, which provides local governments greater authority to regulate massage establishments and creates a more robust regulatory system for massage professionals and businesses.

Human trafficking is an international, multi-billion dollar criminal enterprise that inflicts permanent psychological damage on its victims, often is associated with violence and duress, and exposes victims to diseases that can be life threatening. The enslaving of people for forced labor or sexual servitude sadly is widespread throughout California.

Here in San Leandro, and across the East Bay, our communities have experienced first-hand the challenges associated with massage parlors masquerading as legitimate businesses that were actually fronts for prostitution and human trafficking. Your proposed legislation would provide local agencies with the tools and support necessary to prevent this criminal activity.

AB 1147 returns important land use authority to cities and counties, thereby reinforcing the authority of local massage ordinances, and providing local governments with options for revoking the registration of establishments that violate the law. All of these options are very important to San Leandro.

Our legislative advocate, Niccolo De Luca of Townsend Public Affairs, will be contacting your office to best determine how we may be of any further assistance.

I thank you for your time and leadership on this important policy matter.

Sincerely,

Stephen H. Cassidy  
Mayor, City of San Leandro

cc: The Honorable Assemblymember Rob Bonta  
The Honorable Senator Ellen Corbett  
The Honorable Senator Loni Hancock  
San Leandro City Council  
San Leandro City Manager Chris Zapata