



September 2, 2022

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1685 (Bryan) Vehicles: Parking Violations.
Request for VETO

Dear Governor Newsom:

The League of California Cities (Cal Cities) must respectfully urge you to **veto AB 1685** (Bryan), which would require cities and other processing agencies to forgive at least \$1,500 in parking fines and fees annually for a qualified homeless person, allowing applicants to request forgiveness at least four times a year.

In the past couple of years, several bills have been signed into law to address the impact of parking debt on indigent persons by reducing the financial burdens and requiring waivers of related late fees while recognizing that some sort of penalty must remain for parking in places cities have a legitimate reason to discourage parking cars for too long.

Under current law, cities and other processing agencies are required to have a payment plan mechanism in place that allows individuals with outstanding parking citations to repay their fines and penalties while preserving their ability to register and drive their vehicles. Additionally, the courts are required to have a procedure for waiving pre-payment penalties for indigent individuals when requesting an administrative hearing. Additionally, many cities have designated safe parking lots to make it legal for homeless individuals to park and live out of their vehicles citywide.

As noted in both the Assembly and Senate Appropriations Committee analysis of AB 1685, this measure would have significant fiscal impacts for cities. Not only would this measure impact local revenues, but it would also add administrative challenges to our processing entities responsible for verifying an applicant's status through a continuum of care (CoC) or a homeless services provider. This may require multiple attempts to contact health care providers, legal services providers, or other entities that service people experiencing homelessness and makes referrals to other homeless services providers.

Parking enforcement serves the vital functions of helping cities keep streets and water systems clean (street sweeping), perform essential public works (i.e., tree trimming, sidewalk repair), ensure access to business and government services by promoting turnover, and promoting alternative modes of transportation in heavily congested



areas. Without appropriate levels of fines, drivers will simply ignore these rules, making it incredibly challenging to meet these multi-faceted goals.

We appreciate the author's interest in bringing this measure forward but remain concerned about the bill's practical implications. For the reasons stated above, Cal Cities urges you to **veto AB 1685**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Conklin", is placed over a light gray rectangular background.

Damon Conklin
Legislative Affairs, Lobbyist

cc: The Honorable Isaac Bryan, California State Assembly
Ronda Paschal, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Governor Newsom