



ANTIOCH CALIFORNIA



BAKERSFIELD THE SOUND OF Something Better



CITY OF CLOVERDALE



September 2, 2022

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

RE: **SB 1338 (Umberg) Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court Program**  
**Request for Signature**

Dear Governor Newsom,

The League of California Cities (Cal Cities) and the 72 cities listed in this letter write to request your **signature** on SB 1338 (Umberg), which would create the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court program.

Local governments are on the front lines of addressing homelessness in every community, regardless of size or location. For unsheltered individuals with severe behavioral health needs, access to a comprehensive care system is essential to addressing their housing needs and long-term stability. Cities are eager to support SB 1338, which would expand access to essential care for our most vulnerable residents.

We applaud the most recent amendments, which will ensure the successful implementation of the CARE Court program throughout the state. Specifically, these amendments include a phased-in approach to statewide implementation and upfront funding to support counties in establishing this program. These amendments are critical as a well-executed program with adequate time and funding to ramp-up will provide for a strong basis for the future, better outcomes for the individuals in this program, and long-term success.

Most notably, we are pleased to see the inclusion of the Cal Cities requested amendment to allow cities to be involved in the development of CARE plans if cities agree to provide critical services and support. Given the programming and fiscal pressures cities may incur, it is paramount cities have a voice in CARE plan development. We appreciate the partnership and collaboration with your office to incorporate these key amendments to ensure municipalities have a





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pathway to participate in this process as needed.

Cities have long advocated for increased funding and resources to prevent homelessness and assist individuals experiencing homelessness. SB 1338 is a step towards addressing this priority by creating an additional tool to connect unsheltered Californians experiencing the most acute mental health challenges with comprehensive treatment and housing.

For these reasons, we **request your signature** on **SB 1338**. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 580-5075 or [ccirincione@calcities.org](mailto:ccirincione@calcities.org).

Sincerely,

*Caroline Cirincione*

Caroline Cirincione  
Legislative Affairs, Lobbyist

cc. The Honorable Tom Umberg  
Jessica Devencenzi, Deputy Legislative Secretary,  
Office of Governor Newsom

**Cities in Support of SB 1338:**

- |               |                  |                     |
|---------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Alameda       | El Centro        | Pacifica            |
| Antioch       | Encinitas        | Paramount           |
| Arvin         | Escondido        | Pleasant Hill       |
| Bakersfield   | Eureka           | Pleasanton          |
| Berkeley      | Fontana          | Rancho Palos Verdes |
| Beverly Hills | Fountain Valley  | Redwood City        |
| Big Bear Lake | Fullerton        | Rio Dell            |
| Brentwood     | Garden Grove     | Riverside           |
| Buena Park    | Huntington Beach | San Diego           |
| Carlsbad      | Imperial Beach   | San Marcos          |
| Chino Hills   | Irvine           | Santa Ana           |
| Chula Vista   | Kerman           | Santa Monica        |
| Claremont     | Laguna Beach     | Santa Rosa          |
| Clearlake     | Laguna Niguel    | Santee              |
| Cloverdale    | Lemon Grove      | Solana Beach        |
| Concord       | Manhattan Beach  | South San Francisco |
| Corona        | Mission Viejo    | Stanton             |
| Coronado      | Montclair        | Temecula            |
| Cotati        | Murrieta         | Ukiah               |
| Cypress       | Napa             | Vista               |
| Del Mar       | Newport Beach    | West Hollywood      |
| Dinuba        | Oakley           | Whittier            |
| Dublin        | Oceanside        | Wildomar            |
| El Cajon      | Ontario          | Willits             |



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