



June 17, 2024

The Honorable Lori Wilson  
Member, California State Assembly  
1021 O St., Room 8110  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Assembly Bill 2632 (Wilson) Planning and zoning: thrift retail stores.  
OPPOSE as Amended April 22, 2024**

Dear Assemblymember Wilson,

The League of California Cities (Cal Cities), Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), and California State Association of Counties (CSAC) regrettably must **oppose** your measure **AB 2632**, which would prohibit local agencies from treating a thrift retail store differently from a non-thrift retail store engaged in the sale of new items for zoning, development standards, and permitting.

Thrift stores have gained popularity in recent years as the sale of secondhand goods provides residents more affordable options for clothing and other necessities. Local governments recognize the importance of having these retail operations available to residents, and the positive economic force they can be for jurisdictions. However, thrift stores, given their unique role in donation collection, can have more significant impacts on the area surrounding the business location, making consideration of each project on a case-by-case basis and compliance with local zoning and health and safety measures even more important.

Local governments are tasked with ensuring that businesses do not impede on the welfare of the community and must consider the impacts donation facilities have on traffic flow, public health, and noise, which differ from retail stores that do not receive, or have to dispose of, used goods. AB 2632 requires local jurisdiction to treat thrift retail stores in the same manner as retail stores in zoning, permitting and imposing development standards. This makes it impossible for local governments to considering the increased traffic, illegal dumping, and increased fire risk that may come with these types of facilities.

Our organizations believe thrift retail stores have a place in our communities but it is imperative that local governments retain the ability to weigh the factors, impacts and consequences of siting thrift stores, as we do with every other type of businesses in our communities. AB 2632 overrides the ability of local governments to ensure public health and safety through established permitting processes and therefore we must **oppose** your

bill. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Brady Guertin (Cal Cities) at [bguertin@calcities.org](mailto:bguertin@calcities.org), Mark Neuburger (CSAC) at [mneuburger@counties.org](mailto:mneuburger@counties.org), and Tracy Rhine (RCRC) at [trhine@rcrcnet.org](mailto:trhine@rcrcnet.org).

Sincerely,



Tracy Rhine  
Senior Policy Advocate



Brady Guertin  
Legislative Affairs, Lobbyist



Mark Neuburger  
Legislative Advocate

cc: The Honorable Maria Elena Durazo, Chair, Senate Local Government Committee  
Members of the Senate Local Government Committee  
Anton Favorini-Csorba, Chief Consultant, Senate Local Government Committee  
Ted Morley, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus