



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

July 3, 2019

The Honorable Chris Holden
California State Assembly
1020 N. Street, Room 5132
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for AB 1152 (Holden) Vital Records

Dear Assemblymember Holden:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach (City), I write in support of Assembly Bill 1152 (Holden). This legislation proposes to enable local health jurisdictions that serve cities to issue vital records such as birth and death certificates. This expansion of services would improve health care service delivery, particularly for our homeless population as vital records are often required to deliver services.

Due to the passage of AB 2561 in 2018, State law has prohibited cities from distributing vital records. Despite the City's Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) being centrally located in our community, residents must retrieve vital records over 30 miles away at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Administration (LACDPH). This has resulted in negative impacts to service delivery.

The City supports legislation that enhances public health services. For years, the Long Beach homeless services Continuum of Care (CoC) has been nationally recognized as a well-coordinated system of care. The City goes to great lengths to provide our homeless outreach teams with the resources and information they need to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness reach permanent housing. It is with this in mind, we are requesting access to the State's Vital Records Image Redaction and Statewide Access (VRIRSA) database.

Given these reasons, I support AB 1152 (Holden).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Garcia".

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Lena Gonzalez, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Tom Umberg, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District