



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

August 6, 2019

The Honorable Wendy Carrillo
California State Assembly
120 N. Street, Room 4167
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for AB 1753 (Carrillo) Immigration Consultants

Dear Assemblymember Carrillo:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach (City), I write in support of Assembly Bill 1753 (Carrillo). This legislation would make it unlawful to provide immigration consultation services, for compensation, unless an individual is authorized to practice law or a supervised paralegal. As a City that prides itself on supporting our community, Long Beach supports AB 1753.

On March 13, 2018, the Long Beach City Council adopted the 'Long Beach Values Act of 2018,' which established procedures for the requesting, collecting, maintaining, and disclosing of sensitive information, and the enforcement of federal immigration law. The Long Beach Values Act expands the City's support for California Senate Bill 54, more commonly known as the 'California Values Act,' and is implemented through a City Administrative Regulation (AR 8-33).

In April 2019, the City announced receipt of a \$100,000 Safety and Fairness for Everyone Cities Catalyst Grant from the Vera Institute of Justice. The award, combined with the City's FY19 allocation of \$250,000, and selection of the Immigrant Defenders Law Center as the legal service provider, initiated the Long Beach Justice Fund (Fund). Approved by City Council on December 4, 2018, this Fund is supporting legal representation for immigrants who live or work in Long Beach and are facing deportation. While the City's commitment through AR 8-33 and the Fund are important to supporting local immigrants, it is vital the legal services afforded to our community be provided by those authorized to practice law or a supervised paralegal. The accreditation of authorized immigration consultants, along with a database to locate such consultants, as AB 1753 proposes, will sanction services to support the City's immigrant community.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 1753 (Carrillo).

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