



CITY OF LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER

September 14, 2015

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Opposition to Assembly Bill 848 (Stone) – Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Treatment Facilities

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in opposition to Assembly Bill 848 (Stone). This bill would allow physicians and other medical providers to perform ongoing medical treatment at licensed drug and alcohol rehabilitation facilities in residential neighborhoods.

Existing law allows drug and alcohol rehabilitation facilities to be located within residential neighborhoods if there are six or fewer inhabitants at the residence. While the City understands that these rehabilitation facilities have a role in aiding alcohol or drug addiction recovery, we are strongly opposed to allowing medical treatment in residential neighborhoods on a routine basis. Medical treatment should be performed in areas of the City that are zoned and permitted for medical facilities – not in local neighborhoods.

AB 848 fails to recognize local land use issues that can arise in conjunction with residential drug and alcohol rehabilitation facilities. Law enforcement in areas where residential drug and alcohol rehabilitation facilities exist is already a challenge.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach opposes AB 848 and respectfully request a veto on the bill.

Sincerely,

Patrick H. West
CITY MANAGER

cc: The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District