



**MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA**  
CITY OF LONG BEACH

July 27, 2020

The Honorable Sydney Kamlager  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 4015  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Support for AB 2054 (Kamlager): Emergency Services: Community Response: Grant Program**

Dear Assemblymember Kamlager,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to support Assembly Bill 2054 (Kamlager), the Community Response Initiative to Strengthen Emergency Systems (C.R.I.S.E.S.) Act. This bill proposes to establish a grant program to award community organizations that advance emergency response efforts for vulnerable populations, which is in alignment with the City's actions to ensure equitable, inclusive emergency response during the COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19 has underscored the disparities in public health and economic outcomes for vulnerable populations in Long Beach. The City has a long history of engaging with people experiencing homelessness and facing mental health crises through innovative partnerships with public health professionals and community-based organizations. During COVID-19, the City has established three temporary emergency shelters and housed more than 125 individuals through Project Roomkey. Furthermore, the City provides three daily meals to 600 older and vulnerable adults through the Great Plates Delivered program, and 1,000 meals delivered daily through the community-based World Central Kitchen program. Together, these programs fulfill a need to maintain the health and safety of residents while ensuring the livelihoods for the staff of nearly 20 participating restaurants. Providing resources for vulnerable populations, such as the C.R.I.S.E.S. Act proposes, is critical to progress through and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The City supports efforts to assist community programming, with a focus on vulnerable populations. Community organizations are an integral partner in these efforts, and the grant opportunities proposed by AB 2054 offer valuable resources to expand emergency response for underserved communities.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 2054 (Kamlager).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia  
City of Long Beach

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