



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

March 24, 2022

The Honorable Brian Maienschein
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Room 5640
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for AB 1648 (Maienschein)—Animal Wildfire Evacuation Plan

Dear Assemblymember Maienschein,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to support AB 1648. This bill requires kennels to create and submit an animal natural disaster evacuation plan as a condition for obtaining a license or permit to operate.

Natural disasters in California have tragically highlighted a serious need for preparing and executing an evacuation plan for animals. In the event of a natural disaster, animals are often left in unfortunate circumstances because of the absence of pre-planning. It is critical that businesses operating boarding facilities have their own disaster plan for the pets they have accepted into their care. When animals are not evacuated, government is tasked with assisting displaced people with pets, placing an additional burden on first responders and animal care facilities.

The City supports legislation that facilitates planning, logistics, and execution of an emergency or disaster management plan for animal rescue and sheltering. Having an established evacuation plan will help protect animals in the event of a natural disaster while saving time and resources. Given these reasons, the City supports AB 1648.

Sincerely,

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