



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

March 30, 2022

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 5220
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Mike Gipson
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 8110
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for AB 1929 (Gabriel and Gipson)—Medi-Cal: Violence Preventive Services

Dear Assemblymembers Gabriel and Gipson,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I support AB 1929 to provide Medi-Cal coverage for violence prevention services. This bill would codify a proposal by the Department of Health Care Services to expand Medi-Cal support for violence prevention services that promote healing and recovery after violent injury and interrupt chronic cycles of violence, unaddressed trauma, and retaliation.

In July 2011, the Long Beach City Council requested the development of a citywide violence prevention strategy, including child abuse, domestic violence, elder abuse, hate crimes, bullying, gang violence, and violent crime. The resulting [Safe Long Beach Violence Prevention Plan](#) is a strategic vision to prevent violence in families, schools, and communities across Long Beach. This program aligns with our efforts in the [Racial Reconciliation Framework](#) to uplift community voices for greater equity in violence prevention. The City also recently approved a gun violence response system, which includes case management and community interventionist workers to address community level violence in high-impacted neighborhoods. As a best practice, community interventionist workers help de-escalate and assist families impacted by gun violence with referrals and linkages to immediate services. The proposed legislation will aid community interventionist and health workers with a common certification process and resources to address violence.

The City supports funding for upstream violence prevention services that use innovative and effective patient-focused strategies to break the cycle of trauma and reduce rates for violent injury recidivism. With AB 1929, violence prevention services can continue their preventative work and harness State and federal funding to reduce the cycle of violence in our communities.

For these reasons, the City supports AB 1929.

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 Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District