



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

March 30, 2022

The Honorable Susan Talamantes Eggman
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 8530
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for SB 1065 (Eggman) – California Abandoned and Derelict Commercial Vessel Program

Dear Senator Eggman,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to support SB 1065. This legislation will establish the California Abandoned and Derelict Commercial Vessel Program to create a statewide inventory of derelict or abandoned commercial vessels, coordinate a plan to remove them, and authorize civil action against owners of these vessels.

SB 1065 would advance the City's efforts to receive State resources and legal support to remove the abandoned, privately-owned Scorpion Submarine moored next to The Queen Mary in the Long Beach Harbor. The submarine poses an environmental hazard, and removal of the submarine has been identified as a top priority for the long-term preservation and reopening of the Queen Mary. After several failed attempts to contact the owner, the City has begun identifying alternatives for the removal of the submarine. Depending on the level of contamination, remediation, and ecological impacts, proper removal could cost millions of dollars, and it is very unlikely the City will recover sufficient funds from the owner for the costs of removal.

The City supports resources for the Queen Mary's historic preservation, infrastructure and safety improvements, and long-term economic development. SB 1065 would bolster the City's efforts to remove the Scorpion Submarine and seek reimbursement of costs by the owner or the State grant program.

For these reasons, the City supports SB 1065 and further encourages the Legislature to appropriate State funding for the removal of abandoned vessels that have a detrimental effect on our coastline, like the Scorpion Submarine in Long Beach.

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