



# MAYOR REX RICHARDSON

July 10, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Support for AB 1948 (Rendon, Santiago, Gipson, and Essayli)—Homeless Multidisciplinary Personnel Teams**

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach (City), I urge your signature on AB 1948. This bill would permanently extend a pilot program that provides supportive services to Californians at high risk of becoming homeless.

In 2019, the Legislature passed a pilot program (AB 728 by Assemblymember Miguel Santiago) that authorizes several counties to develop homeless multidisciplinary teams. These teams allow different county agencies to share information in order to coordinate services for Californians identified as being at a higher risk of becoming homeless. This program is set to expire on January 1, 2025. AB 1948 would extend this key program, giving the pilot counties (Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Clara, and Ventura) the ability to continue to coordinate services for individuals at high risk of homelessness. This bill would additionally authorize the County of San Mateo to expand the goals of the homeless adult and family multidisciplinary personnel team.

The City of Long Beach supports policies, legislation, and grants to reduce homelessness, including housing assistance and case management service funding related to mental health and substance abuse. The City's [2024 Homeless Point in Time Count](#) found that 3,376 people were experiencing homelessness on the morning of January 25, 2024. AB 1948 will enable county homeless multidisciplinary teams across the state to share information to provide higher quality care to people experiencing homelessness.

In Los Angeles County, these homelessness prevention efforts have proven effective; the County's Homeless Prevention Unit (HPU) pilot program has maintained an 88 percent housing retention rate for participants exiting its program. The data sharing authority has helped HPU staff connect with harder to reach clients, which has yielded higher success rates for client contactability. AB 1948 will indefinitely extend the availability of critical intervention and assistance, allowing counties to better serve Californians at high risk of becoming homeless.

For these reasons, the City requests your signature on AB 1948.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rex Richardson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mayor Rex Richardson  
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Lena Gonzalez, State Senate, 33<sup>rd</sup> District  
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 65<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Josh Lowenthal, State Assembly, 69<sup>th</sup> District