June 30, 2016

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Senate Bill 1235 (de León) – Ammunition

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Senate Bill 1235 (de León). This bill would expand upon and strengthen the State’s existing ammunition regulatory framework by requiring businesses to obtain a State license to sell ammunition, log information about ammunition transactions, and screen the ammunition purchaser for any prohibitions at the point of sale. Long Beach supports strengthening gun control laws that would enable ammunition tracking.

California has enacted legislation designed to prevent prohibited persons from procuring “handgun ammunition;” however, State law does not extend this limitation to all types of ammunition. In order to appropriately restrict the purchase of handgun ammunition, it would be appropriate for the State to have an accurate database of businesses engaged in the sale of ammunition. SB 1235 would, commencing January 1, 2018, require an ammunition vendor to obtain a license from the Department of Justice (DOJ) in order to sell ammunition. Ammunition sales would then be carried out by the licensed vendor, who would screen purchasers to ensure that individuals are not prohibited from owning or possessing ammunition.

The sale and distribution of ammunition has remained largely unregulated. SB 1235 is one solution to reduce easy access to ammunition by prohibited persons. Long Beach supports strengthen the ammunition regulatory framework to ensure that prohibited possessors of firearms cannot purchase ammunition.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 1235 and respectfully request your signature on Senate Bill 1235 (de León).

Sincerely,

Patrick H. West
CITY MANAGER

cc: The Honorable Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
    The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 39th District
    The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
    The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
    The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
    The Honorable Patrick O’Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District