February 29, 2016

The Honorable Loni Hancock
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 2082
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Senate Bill 1446 (Hancock) – Firearms: magazine capacity

Dear Senator Hancock:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Senate Bill 1446 (Hancock). This bill would help reduce gun violence by prohibiting the possession of large-capacity magazines. Long Beach supports strengthening gun control laws that promote public safety and reduce the number of military style magazines in California.

While the State prohibits the importation, manufacture, and sale of large-capacity ammunition magazines, possession of such a magazine is not prohibited. These large-capacity magazines can hold upwards of 100 rounds of ammunition, which allows for a shooter to rapidly fire without reloading. Such a magazine is not intended for hunting or target shooting. SB 1446 would, commencing July 1, 2017, prohibit the possession of any large-capacity magazine, regardless of the date the magazine was acquired.

SB 1446 strengthens California’s gun control laws by amending the definition of “capacity to accept more than 10 rounds” to mean capable of holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition. Clarifying the definition would also require a person in lawful possession of a large-capacity magazine prior to July 1, 2017, to dispose of the magazine. Long Beach is supportive of these changes to State law.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 1446.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker-Elect Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O’Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District
Senate Committee on Public Safety