



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

March 21, 2016

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

Re: Support for SBx2-5 (Leno) – Electronic Cigarettes

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support SBx2-5 (Leno). This bill protects the community and its youth by regulating electronic cigarettes as tobacco products under the state's smoke-free laws and the Stop Tobacco Access to Kids Enforcement (STAKE) Act.

Long Beach takes the health and safety of our community incredibly seriously. On March 4, 2014, the Long Beach City Council voted to adopt one of the State's strictest e-cigarette ordinances. The City's municipal code currently classifies e-cigarettes as tobacco products, and treats the vaporized devices in much the same way as regular cigarettes, banning their use in restaurants, bars, workplaces, City parks and beaches. Long Beach's municipal code also bans e-cigarette sales to minors under the age of 18 and subjects vendors to inspections and potential sting operations by the City's health department.

Because of statutory discrepancy among State regulation of electronic cigarettes and tobacco products, there is a real concern for addressing electronic cigarette marketing tactics, accessibility to youth, and growing usage among young adults.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach is proud to support SBx2-5. We respectfully request your signature on SBx2-5 (Leno).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Garcia", with a flourish underneath.

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Mark Leno, State Senate, 11th District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd 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
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