



MAYOR REX RICHARDSON

April 5, 2023

The Honorable Dr. Jasmeet Bains
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 5730
Sacramento, CA 94249

RE: Support for AB 1166 (Bains)—Liability for Opioid Antagonist Administration

Dear Assemblymember Bains,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in support of AB 1166. This bill would clarify that a person who, in good faith and not for compensation, either renders emergency care by means of administering an opioid antagonist or furnishes an opioid antagonist is not liable for civil damages resulting from an act or omission related to such rendering or furnishing. AB 1166 aligns with the City's objectives to support legislation that assists municipalities in combatting opioid overdose.

Fentanyl is a serious threat to the safety and well-being of the Long Beach community. On November 7, 2022, the Long Beach City Council adopted a [resolution](#) acknowledging fentanyl and opioid overdoses as a public health crisis. The City has been proactive in obtaining Naloxone Nasal Spray (Narcan) and expanding Narcan training to a full range of city employees and external partners. Long Beach Fire Department personnel have been carrying Narcan for decades. In 2018, the Long Beach Police Department participated in a Naloxone Nasal Spray Pilot Program in which selected officers were trained to administer this life-saving medication. In addition to training City staff, Long Beach Health Department personnel have been active in the community, training nurses at Long Beach Unified School District on how to administer Narcan. The City is also in the process of developing a policy that would expand access to Narcan for Parks and Library staff. As a result, AB 1166 will help to mitigate liability concerns for City staff who administer Narcan.

With the recent FDA approval of over-the-counter naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray, more lay people will be able to render emergency medical aid to rapidly reverse the effects of opioid overdose. AB 1166 strengthens the City's capacity to address opioid overdose and encourages increased access to this life-saving medication. For these reasons, the City supports AB 1166.

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, 33rd District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 65th District
The Honorable Josh Lowenthal, State Assembly, 69th District