



MAYOR
REXRICHARDSON

January 17, 2023

The Honorable Steven Bradford
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 7210
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for SB 51 (Bradford)—Cannabis provisional licenses: local equity applicants

Dear Senator Bradford,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to support SB 51. This legislation would allow the State of California's Department of Cannabis Control to extend its provisional license program by allowing equity applicants or licensees to obtain or renew provisional licenses after the current deadline of June 30, 2023. The City recognizes social equity as a core priority for cannabis policymaking and supports equitable opportunities in the local cannabis industry.

On May 24, 2022, the Long Beach City Council voted to adopt the [Equity Dispensary Ordinance and Resolution](#) to allow up to eight additional dispensaries to be owned exclusively by equity applicants. SB 51 aligns with the City's objectives to support funding and resources that advance the City's Cannabis Social Equity Program. The proposed legislation would provide social equity applicants with the ability to obtain a provisional state license, thereby reducing the barrier to entry for equity applicants and licensees and allowing social equity businesses to become operational upon issuance of the local cannabis dispensary license.

SB 51 will further advance the goals of the City's Cannabis Social Equity Program by supporting equal opportunity in the Long Beach cannabis industry. For these reasons, the City supports SB 51.

Sincerely,

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