



MAYOR REX RICHARDSON

September 5, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for AB 1738 (Carrillo)—Mobile Homeless Connect Pilot Program

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach (City), I urge your signature on AB 1738. This bill would require the Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) to establish the Mobile Homeless Connect Pilot Program in specified areas, including Los Angeles County, to assist people experiencing homelessness with obtaining an identification card. AB 1738 aligns with the City's objectives to support legislation and funding that reduces homelessness.

The City's [2024 Point-in-Time \(PIT\) Count](#) revealed that approximately 3,376 people were experiencing homelessness in January 2024. This number signifies a 2.1 percent decrease from last year—the first time the City has reported an overall decrease in homelessness since 2017. However, many people experiencing homelessness lack the necessary forms of personal identification needed to establish their eligibility for various public assistance and social programs and to access workforce and housing opportunities. AB 1738 will assist people experiencing homelessness with obtaining state-issued documentation from the DMV so they can access a range of services, including permanent supportive housing, affordable housing, and rental subsidy programs. Furthermore, AB 1738 will bring state and local services directly to individuals experiencing homelessness where they are, instead of requiring people to travel to a patchwork of government offices where services are usually available.

Assisting people experiencing homelessness with obtaining identification cards will enable homeless service providers and local governments to move people into permanent housing more expeditiously.

For these reasons, the City requests your signature on AB 1738.

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