



CITY OF LA VERNE CITY HALL

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www.cityoflaverne.org

August 14, 2024

Assembly Committee on Appropriations
1021 O Street, Room 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

Submitted via the Legislative Position Letter Portal

RE: Support of Senate Bill 690 (SB 690) Domestic Violence

Dear Honorable Assembly Appropriations Committee Members:

On behalf of the City of La Verne, I am writing to express my strong support of Senate Bill 690, which will extend the statute of limitations for domestic violence (DV) crimes to 15 years. This legislation is crucial to ensuring that survivors of domestic violence have the time they need to heal, recover, and seek justice, thereby enhancing public safety in our communities.

Domestic violence is a pervasive issue that affects individuals and families across our state. The trauma inflicted by such violence often leaves lasting psychological scars that can take years, if not decades, to heal. This proposed extension is not just a legal adjustment; it is a compassionate response to the realities faced by survivors.

According to the American Psychological Association, over one-third of women and one-quarter of men in the United States have experienced severe intimate partner violence. The situation is even more alarming among vulnerable populations, such as women with disabilities, who face a 40% higher risk of intimate partner violence. Additionally, the prevalence of abuse among high school students highlights the urgent need to extend the timeframe within which survivors can seek justice.

This legislation recognizes the complex reasons why survivors may delay reporting, such as fear of retaliation, ongoing trauma, or lack of resources. By extending the statute of limitations, we send a powerful message that our society values the well-being of survivors and is committed to holding abusers accountable, regardless of when the abuse occurred.

I urge you to support this critical legislation. By extending the statute of limitations for domestic violence crimes, we can provide survivors with the time they need to seek justice and contribute to a safer, more just society for all. Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tim Hepburn
Mayor

C: City Council
Ken Domer, City Manager