



CITY OF LA VERNE CITY HALL

3660 "D" Street, La Verne, California 91750-3599
www.cityoflaverne.org

August 27, 2024

Honorable Gavin Newsom
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Submitted via email
Leg.Unit@gov.ca.gov

RE: Veto Request for Assembly Bill 2561 (AB 2561): Local public employees: vacant positions.

Dear Governor Newsom:

I am writing on behalf of the City of La Verne to strongly urge your veto of Assembly Bill 2561 (AB 2561). While we understand the intent behind this legislation—to address job vacancies in local government—this bill imposes unnecessary and counterproductive burdens on cities without offering practical solutions.

AB 2561 would require local agencies to engage in time-consuming meet and confer processes and public hearings, diverting critical resources away from the essential task of filling vacancies. For small cities like ours, which already operate with limited budgets and personnel, these additional requirements would further strain our capacity to serve our community.

The bill fails to address the root causes of staffing shortages and instead adds unnecessary layers of bureaucracy. What we need are practical solutions that support recruitment and retention, not more red tape that hinders our ability to function effectively.

We urge you to veto AB 2561 and instead focus on developing legislation that genuinely addresses the staffing challenges faced by local governments. Thank you for considering the impact this bill would have on cities across California.

Sincerely,

Tim Hepburn
Mayor

C: City Council
Ken Domer, City Manager