



CITY OF LAVERNE CITY HALL

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May 5, 2025

1021 O Street, Suite 5250
Sacramento, CA 95814

Support for AB 259 (Rubio) – Open Meetings: Local Agencies: Teleconferences

Dear Honorable Assemblymember Blanca Rubio:

On behalf of the City of La Verne, we must express our support for Assembly Bill 259, which would extend the teleconferencing provisions established by AB 2449 and preserve critical flexibility for public agency board members to participate remotely under limited, justified circumstances.

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the importance of providing safe, secure, and practical alternatives to in-person meetings. Since the adoption of AB 2449, local governments have responsibly used its provisions to ensure continuity of governance when in-person attendance is not feasible due to illness, travel, or emergency. These procedures have allowed agencies like ours to maintain transparency, meet quorum requirements, and keep essential operations moving—without sacrificing public access or participation.

AB 259 would preserve these important capabilities by removing the sunset date currently set for January 1, 2026, thereby ensuring that local agencies can continue using remote meeting options in a consistent and predictable manner. It does not expand the scope of the law, but simply ensures that the framework—carefully negotiated by stakeholders and with strong public access safeguards—remains in place through 2030.

The City of La Verne believes that responsible teleconferencing enhances government accessibility and responsiveness while maintaining the integrity of public meetings. For these reasons, we respectfully urge your support of AB 259.

Sincerely,

Tim Hepburn
Mayor