



# CITY OF LAVERNE CITY HALL

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August 19, 2025

Assembly Appropriations Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 8220  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Submitted via the Legislative Position Letter Portal

**RE: Opposition to SB 487 (Grayson) – Workers' Compensation: Third-Party Recovery.**

Dear Honorable Assembly Appropriations Committee Members:

On behalf of the City of La Verne, we must respectfully oppose SB 487, which would limit the ability of public employers to recover the cost of workers' compensation benefits when a police officer or firefighter is injured due to the fault of a third party.

Public agencies are already required to provide full workers' compensation benefits to injured safety employees, regardless of fault, including extended salary continuation, and industrial disability retirement benefits. These benefits are substantially more generous than those available to most other workers and come at a significant and growing cost to local agencies and taxpayers. SB 487 would restrict one of the few financial remedies available to recover those public expenditures by prioritizing civil settlements for injured employees over the employer's subrogation rights.

While we value and support the service of police officers and firefighters, this bill creates an inequitable and fiscally unsustainable framework. It allows a double recovery for injured public safety employees, who already receive full compensation, while shifting the entire financial burden to public agencies that had no role in causing the injury. Worse, this proposal is not based on objective data or a demonstrated problem but rather anecdotal claims that do not justify reversing longstanding, balanced policy.

Local agencies like La Verne are predominantly self-insured. Any losses unrecovered due to SB 487 directly impact local budgets, reducing our ability to deliver core public services. The subrogation process exists precisely to ensure that third-party liability helps offset these costs, not to unjustly enrich any party.

For these reasons, the City of La Verne must oppose SB 487 and urges a more data-driven, fiscally responsible approach to addressing third-party recovery in workers' compensation.

Sincerely,

Tim Hepburn  
Mayor