



CITY OF LA VERNE CITY HALL

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

September 18, 2025

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

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

RE: Support for AB 468 (Gabriel) – Crimes: Looting

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the City of La Verne, we must express our strong support for AB 468. This bill provides communities with stronger protections in the aftermath of disasters by establishing increased penalties for looting within evacuation zones.

When residents are forced to evacuate during wildfires, earthquakes, or other emergencies, they should have confidence that their homes and belongings will be safeguarded. Looting not only victimizes individuals already enduring devastating losses, it undermines trust in evacuation orders, diverts emergency resources, and endangers both residents and first responders. By updating definitions of looting and increasing penalties for burglary, theft, and trespass in evacuation zones, AB 468 sends a clear message that California will not tolerate opportunistic crimes committed during times of crisis.

The City of La Verne has neighborhoods located in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, where the threat of wildfire-related evacuations is an ever-present concern. AB 468 enhances deterrence and provides law enforcement with stronger tools to protect evacuated communities during disaster response and recovery. This measure directly supports public safety and community resilience in the face of emergencies.

For these reasons, the City of La Verne respectfully urges your signature on AB 468.

Sincerely,

Tim Hepburn
Mayor

C: City Council
Ken Domer, City Manager

