March 28, 2018

The Honorable Ed Hernandez
Chair, Senate Committee on Health
State Capitol, Room 2191
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1317 (Portantino) Licensing: alcoholism or drug abuse treatment facilities – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Hernandez,

California Contract Cities Association is pleased to support SB 1317 (Portantino), which would provide local governments the ability to adopt an ordinance requiring an alcohol or drug abuse recovery facility to meet specified conditions prior to opening a facility in a local jurisdiction. Contract Cities strongly supports and advocates for local control, representing 76 cities and 7.5 million residents across Southern California.

Under existing law, drug and alcohol rehabilitation treatment facilities must meet minimum state standards prior to licensing. However, the law does not provide local jurisdiction with the necessary tools to hold these facilities accountable to the residential communities they exist in, resulting in the exploitation of multiple adjacent properties into a campus-style facilities and overconcentration. These facilities irreparably alter our residential neighborhoods, while owners of the facilities maximize profits. SB 1317 provides an incremental fix to a growing issue, granting member cities the ability to establish minimum local control standards, including a medical waste disposal plan, notice of a facility’s intent to operate, minimum requirements for bedroom, bathroom, bedroom size per occupant.

For these reasons, Contract Cities is pleased to support for SB 1317. Without legislative action, exploitation of our cities will continue to persist. Should you have any questions, please contact Michael Vuong at (562) 622-5533 or michael@contractcities.org.

Sincerely,

Michael T. Davitt
CCCA President
Mayor, La Cañada Flintridge

Lindsey Horvath
CCCA Legislative Committee Chair
Councilmember, West Hollywood
CC: Senator Anthony Portantino
League of California Cities