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April 5, 2018

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

RE: SB 992 (Hernandez) Alcoholism or Drug Abuse Recovery Treatment Facilities – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Hernandez,

California Contract Cities Association is pleased to support SB 992 (Hernandez), which would expand the regulatory arm of the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) requiring facility operators to disclose all related operations and require facilities to develop a continuum of care plan for patients who relapse in care. The overconcentration of recovery and treatment facilities and the patients they are charged with directly impacts the 76 member cities represented of Contract Cities.

Recovery residences and treatment facilities have a culpable history fraught with relapse patients discharged without a continuum of care plan in place, resulting in potential danger to themselves and the communities they reside in. This resulted in years of advocacy by Contract Cities and its members calling for greater accountability of these facilities. SB 992 would complement efforts to increase accountability measures, including AB 3162 (Friedman), and expand the regulatory tools for DHCS to enforce new procedures on facilities to support a patient's continuum of care and revoke a facility's license for failing to protect a patient's interest. Additionally, SB 992 would require treatment facilities to disclose their interests and operations, including ownership and contracts of recovery residences, adding parity to the number and status of recovery residences in the state. Ensuring the state has the necessary tools to hold these facilities accountable is paramount to protecting a patient's road to recovery.

For these reasons, Contract Cities is pleased to support SB 992. If you have any questions, please contact Michael Vuong at michael@contractcities.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael T. Davitt".

Michael T. Davitt
CCCA President
Mayor, La Cañada Flintridge

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lindsey Horvath".

Lindsey Horvath
CCCA Legislative Committee Chair
Councilmember, West Hollywood

CC: City of Malibu
League of California Cities