

CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE • BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Robert Wunderlich, Mayor

May 12, 2021

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee State Capitol, Room 2114 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1119 (Wicks) – Employment Discrimination

The City of Beverly Hills – Support

Dear Chair Gonzalez,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I write to inform you of our support position for AB 1119, which would expand the list of protected characteristics for purposes of defining unlawful employment discrimination under the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) to include "family responsibilities," among other provisions.

Our city shares in the belief that there are currently inadequate safeguards and protections for working parents in this state. As we all have seen throughout the pandemic, these issues have only been exacerbated due to the numerous challenges working families faced in juggling parenting, work, and simply making ends meet.

We believe AB 1119 can help working families more confidently move back into the workforce, knowing their family responsibilities will be protected under California Law. These protections can also serve as an essential catalyst to get our local economies moving again. AB 1119 will also help buffer our economic recovery by encouraging working parents to return to the workforce, preventing any potential worker shortages as local economies begin to emerge from the various COVID-19 Stay at Home restrictions. As a result, this bill is not just good public policy; it is sound fiscal policy.

For these reasons, we are pleased to support AB 1119. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Wunderlich

Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

Robert Wunderlich

Cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Appropriations Committee

Members and Consultants, Assembly Judiciary Committee

Members and Consultants, Assembly Labor and Employment Committee

The Honorable Ben Allen, Senator 26th District

The Honorable Richard Bloom, Assemblymember 50th District

Andrew Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange