

CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE . BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

John A. Mirisch, Mayor

August 8, 2019

The Honorable Mike McGuire California State Senate, 2nd District State Capitol, Room 5061 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 670 (McGuire) Telecommunications. Outages Affecting Public Safety City of Beverly Hills – SUPPORT

Dear Senator McGuire,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I am pleased to write to you in **SUPPORT** of your **SB 670**. This bill will require the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) to develop regulations for notifications of telecommunications service outages that limits their customers' ability to make 911 calls or to receive emergency notifications.

Currently, telecommunications providers are not required to provide pertinent outage information such as approximation of areas affected, number of customers affected, or time of repair to CalOES. While there is a reporting threshold for large outages to the Federal Communications Commissions, that information is not provided to CalOES or local emergency offices.

Telecommunications outages are an ongoing issue in the state, and the frequent occurrences of natural disasters has raised awareness of this issue. In 2017 and 2018, California's catastrophic wildfires underscored both the importance of telecommunications in sending emergency warnings and the degree to which redundant and diverse telecommunications networks would not necessarily prevent outages.

SB 670 requires, upon the adoption of emergency regulations, all providers of telecommunications services to notify CalOES within 60 minutes of discovery of a community isolation outage that limits their customers' ability to make 911 calls or receive emergency notifications. The outage information would provide a description of the estimated area affected, approximate number of

customers affected, estimated time to repair the outage, and a contact person that can provide CalOES with further updates.

SB 670 is an essential tool for state and local offices of emergency services to obtain the necessary information they need to address 911 service interruptions in a timely manner. For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills is pleased to **SUPPORT** your **SB** 670. Thank you for authoring this important measure.

Sincerely

John A. Mirisch

Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Communications and Conveyance Committee

The Honorable Ben Allen, 26th Senate District

The Honorable Richard Bloom, 50th Assembly District

Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw / Yoder / Antwih, Inc.