The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re:  SB 1079 (Portantino) Vehicles: sound-activated enforcement devices.  
City of Beverly Hills – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I am pleased to express the City’s SUPPORT for SB 1079, and respectfully request that you SIGN this measure into law when it reaches your desk. This measure would require the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to evaluate the efficacy of sound-activated enforcement devices by evaluating devices from at least three different companies. This measure can help develop important tools that the public can utilize to help detect and reduce excessively loud vehicle exhaust noise.

While current law limits vehicle exhaust noise to ninety-five decibels, there is no universal means to monitor and enforce this law. Vehicle owners can easily buy and install new exhaust systems or make other modifications to their vehicle that will change the level of sound. This excessive noise can be harmful to the public, especially when walking or cycling on a street.

Under SB 1079, CHP must submit its findings to the state legislature by January 1, 2025. The report must include recommendations for which device or devices, if any, CHP would recommend for the purpose of enforcing existing law regarding muffler and exhaust system noise levels, and the reasons for that determination.

SB 1079 includes important record retention standards and privacy safeguards. The bill requires CHP to delete all videos recorded on a highway within five days of the recording. The bill creates a specialized retention requirement for reporting purposes: CHP must keep fifteen videos from the devices of each company evaluated for the purpose of preparing the report required by this bill. CHP would also be prohibited from retaining any recording that includes audio of a person speaking, if recorded on a highway.
If CHP determines that it does not recommend any of the devices that were evaluated, the Department must list the standards and parameters that must be met by future technology.

For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills respectfully requests that you take action to SIGN SB 1079 into law. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lili Bosse
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

Cc: The Honorable Anthony Portantino, Senator, 25th District
    The Honorable Ben Allen, Senator, 26th District
    The Honorable Richard Bloom, Assemblymember, 50th District
    Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange