



## CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE ▪ BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

**Julian A. Gold, M.D., Mayor**

August 4, 2023

The Honorable Chris Holden  
Chair, Assembly Committee on Appropriations  
1021 O Street, Room 5650  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 14 (Grove): Serious felonies: human trafficking.  
City of Beverly Hills – Support

Dear Chair Holden,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I am writing to you in SUPPORT of SB 14 (Grove) which would add human trafficking of a minor within the definition of a serious felony under California law for all purposes, including for purposes of the Three Strikes Law.

Human trafficking is a growing problem nationwide that affects individuals of all ages and backgrounds, and it is a serious violation of basic human rights. The victims of human trafficking are often subjected to physical and emotional abuse and are forced into involuntary servitude or sexual exploitation.

SB 14 aims to increase the penalties for serious felonies related to human trafficking, including crimes of abduction, false imprisonment, and rape. These crimes are often used by traffickers to control their victims, and increasing the penalties for these crimes will serve as a strong deterrent to those who seek to profit from this illegal activity. SB 14 will also provide law enforcement with the tools they need to investigate and prosecute these crimes.

It is more important than ever to combat an issue of such gravity, especially since California ranks first in the nation in the number of human trafficking cases reported to the National Human Trafficking Hotline. Our City strongly supports legislation which helps combat human trafficking, especially legislation which focuses on the horrendous crime of trafficking children. Children can be irreparably harmed when they are victims of human trafficking; therefore, the City of Beverly Hills is proud to SUPPORT SB 14 (Grove).

Sincerely,

Julian A. Gold, M.D.  
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: The Honorable Shannon Grove, Senator, 12th District  
The Honorable Ben Allen, Senator, 24th District  
The Honorable Rick Zbur, Assemblymember, 51st District  
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange