



ISABEL AGUAYO
Mayor

ANNETTE C. DELGADILLO
Vice Mayor

PEGGY LEMONS
Councilmember

BRENDA OLMOS
Councilmember

VILMA CUELLAR STALLINGS
Councilmember

October 19, 2023

Assemblymember Chris Holden
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8220
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: OPPOSITION TO ASSEMBLY BILL 742: POLICE CANINES, AS AMENDED

Dear Assemblymember Holden:

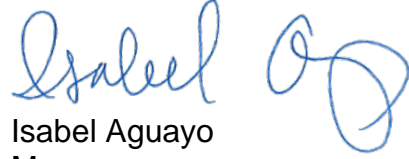
The City of Paramount writes to express our opposition to Assembly Bill 742 (AB 742), which would limit law enforcement's use and training of police canines.

Paramount is concerned that by limiting the use of police canines, local law enforcement agencies will lose a resource that allows them to de-escalate scenarios of arrest or apprehension. Paramount understands that local law enforcement agencies rely on police canines for their sense of smell to help officers find hidden suspects, which is especially helpful in situations where suspects may respond violently after being discovered. Further, hidden suspects often surrender once warned that canines are being deployed, de-escalating the interaction at the onset.

To date a number of law enforcement agencies, including the Riverside County Sheriff's Department and the City of Fresno's Police Department, have voiced concerns in regard to AB 742 and how it would limit their ability to serve and protect communities. Given canines are often used in these high-risk arrest scenarios at the Lakewood Sheriff's Department, Paramount shares these concerns. We feel officers should have access to less lethal resources like police canines in these dangerous situations.

For these reasons, the City of Paramount respectfully opposes AB 742. Please feel free to contact City Manager John Moreno at (562) 220-2222, if you have any questions. On behalf of the City of Paramount, we thank you for your time and consideration.

CITY OF PARAMOUNT



Isabel Aguayo
Mayor

CC. Honorable State Senator Lena Gonzalez, 33rd District
Honorable Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon, 62nd District
Kristine Guerrero, Regional Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities
Jorge Morales, Legislative and Governmental Affairs Consultant, California Contract Cities Association