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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

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April 24, 2017

The Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry
Chair, Assembly Local Government Committee
State Capitol, Room 5144
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for AB 556 (Limon)

Dear Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry:

On behalf of the County of Santa Barbara, we would like to urge your support of Assembly Bill 556 (Limon). The County's 2017 Legislative Platform specifically supports legislative changes that provide counties increased local control and discretion over the fines imposed for violations of the County's zoning ordinances.

Existing limitations on administrative fines are no longer effective deterrence. Homeowners that use their residential properties for large commercial events, such as a wedding venue, are effectively operating a commercial enterprise in a residential neighborhood. The current \$100 maximum fine for a single occurrence or \$500 maximum after multiple violations of local zoning codes or permit conditions is insufficient and is often just priced into the rental charges.

AB 556 would allow counties the options to increase these fines to \$1000 for a first time violation and up to \$5000 per violation after three or more violations. As the sponsors of AB 556, we appreciate that the legislation would provide more local control and would benefit counties because they do provide additional deterrence for activities that threaten public health and safety.

The County of Santa Barbara is pleased to support and sponsor AB 556 (Limon).

If you have questions about the Board's position, please contact the County's Legislative Coordinator, Dennis Bozanich at 805-568-3403 or dbozanich@countyofsb.org.

Sincerely,

Cliff Berg
Governmental Advocates, Inc.

cc: Assemblymember Monique Limon, 37th Assembly District, Author
Angela Mapp, Counsel, Assembly Local Government Committee
William Weber, Counsel, Assembly Republican Caucus

Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham, 35th Assembly District
Assemblymember Hannah-Beth Jackson, 13th Senate District
Members, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Dennis Bozanich, Legislative Coordinator, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors