

CITY OF FULLERTON



Mayor, Fred Jung Mayor Pro Tem, Bruce Whitaker Nick Dunlap Jesús J. Silva Ahmad Zahra

May 24, 2022

The Honorable Tom Umberg Senate District 29 1021 O Street, Room 6520 Sacramento, CA 95814 The Honorable Susan Eggman California State Senate 1021 O Street, Suite 8530 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Senate Bill 1338 (Umberg and Eggman) Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court Program Support

Dear Senator Umberg and Senator Eggman:

On behalf of the City of Fullerton, I want to express our support of Senate Bill 1338, the CARE Court proposal. A major priority for our City continues to be addressing our State's homelessness and mental health crisis, and I feel strongly that your legislation helps provide the support and resources needed.

CARE Court connects a person struggling with untreated mental illness and often substance use challenges with a court-ordered Care Plan for up to 24 months. Each plan is managed by a care team in the community and can include clinically prescribed, individualized interventions with several supportive services, medication, and a housing plan. The client-centered approach also includes a public defender and supporter to help make self-directed care decisions in addition to their full clinical team, as well as opportunities for early engagement and settlement agreements for treatment plans.

CARE Court is designed on the evidence that many people can stabilize, begin healing, and exit homelessness in less restrictive, community-based care settings. This is a long-term strategy to positively impact the individual in care and the community around them. The plan advances an upstream diversion from more restrictive conservatorships or incarceration.

The City of Fullerton supports this legislation, and in particular advocates for funding to be directed through the County of Orange, as it would bolster many of the local mental health and substance abuse initiatives Orange County is leading.

Thank you again for your leadership, determination, and hard work on this critical policy topic.

Sincerely,

Fred Jung

Mayor

cc: Fullerton City Council City Manager Eric Levitt

THE EDUCATION COMMUNITY

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April 29, 2022

The Honorable Tom Umberg California State Senate 1021 O Street, Suite 6730 Sacramento, CA 95814 The Honorable Susan Eggman California State Senate 1021 O Street, Suite 8530 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1338 (Umberg and Eggman) Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court Program. City of Irvine – Notice of SUPPORT

Dear Senator Umberg,

As Mayor of the City of Irvine, I write in strong support of SB 1338, which establishes the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court Act for the purpose of providing a court-ordered CARE plan to individuals who have a severe mental illness and meet other specified criteria that includes behavioral health treatment services, a trained supporter to assist the respondent in navigating the process and identifies an appropriate housing plan.

CARE Court connects a person struggling with untreated mental illness – and often also substance use challenges – with a court-ordered Care Plan for up to 24 months. Each plan is managed by a care team in the community and can include clinically prescribed, individualized interventions with several supportive services, medication, and a housing plan. The client-centered approach also includes a public defender and supporter to help make self-directed care decisions in addition to their full clinical team, as well as opportunities for early engagement and settlement agreements for treatment plans.

CARE Court is designed on the evidence that many people can stabilize, begin healing, and exit homelessness in less restrictive, community-based care settings. It's a long-term strategy to positively impact the individual in care and the community around them. The plan advances an upstream diversion from more restrictive conservatorships or incarceration.

Thank you again for your leadership, determination, and hard work on this critical policy topic.

Sincerely,

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Farrah N. Khan Mayor City of Irvine

cc: Governor Gavin Newsom Senate Pro Tem Toni Atkins Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon Assemblymember Steven Choi Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly, California Health and Human Services Agency Assembly Member Cottie Petrie-Norris Senator Dave Min