



# City of Manhattan Beach

June 4, 2019

## CITY COUNCIL

**Nancy Hersman**  
Mayor

**Richard Montgomery**  
Mayor Pro Tem

**Suzanne Hadley**  
Councilmember

**Hildy Stern**  
Councilmember

**Steve Napolitano**  
Councilmember

## CITY TREASURER

**Tim Lilligren, C.P.A.**  
Treasurer

The Honorable Jim Beall  
Chair, Senate Transportation Committee  
California State Capitol, Room 2082  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### **RE: AB 516 (Chiu) Authority to Remove Vehicles Notice of Opposition**

Dear Senator Beall:

The City of Manhattan Beach respectfully opposes AB 516 (Chiu), a measure that would eliminate the ability for our city to adequately enforce state and local vehicle violations.

AB 516 would eliminate enforcement tools to address motorists who disregard basic laws designed to benefit our entire community. Specifically, the measure would eliminate the ability for the City of Manhattan Beach to:

- “Immobilize,” or place a boot on a vehicle, for motorists who have five or more unpaid parking tickets.
- Remove vehicles with expired registration that are operating illegally; and
- Remove vehicles in violation of parking time restrictions.

The immobilization of a vehicle is only used when someone has five or more unpaid parking tickets and has ignored the payment plans offered to them by our city, as established by recently chaptered bills AB 503 (2017) and AB 2544 (2018). This is a fair process that allows low-income individuals to pay their outstanding parking citations without impacting their ability to maintain their livelihood.

The authority to remove vehicles that are operating unlawfully for failing to register within six months is an essential enforcement tool for violation of state and local laws aimed at requiring insurance, keeping our air clean, our storm drains free of pollution, and our streets safe. Motorists that allow their vehicle registration to expire for more than 6 months are not only in gross violation of state law, but are rejecting their basic responsibility to pay for various programs and services collected with their registration.

The approach in AB 516 rewards people who fail to pay their parking tickets, register their vehicles, or adhere to reasonable policies aimed at preventing abandonment and/or street storage of vehicles, regardless of income. Eliminating proportional

consequences for these sorts of vehicle violations will exacerbate parking scarcity by creating an environment vulnerable for exploitation. This bill, coupled with efforts by the state aimed at eliminating local parking minimums, will create quality of life concerns across income demographics in California.

For these reasons, the City of Manhattan Beach opposes AB 516.

Sincerely,



Nancy Hersman  
Mayor  
City of Manhattan Beach

cc.       Honorable Governor Gavin Newsom  
          Senate Public Safety Committee  
          Honorable State Senator Ben Allen  
          Honorable State Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi  
          Jeff Kiernan, League of California Cities Regional Public Affairs Manager  
          League of California Cities, [cityletter@cacities.org](mailto:cityletter@cacities.org)