



## CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE ▪ BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Lili Bosse, Mayor

April 11, 2022

The Honorable Henry Stern  
California State Senate, 27th District  
1021 O Street, Suite 7710  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 1472 (Stern) – Vehicular Manslaughter: Speeding and Reckless Driving  
City of Beverly Hills – SUPPORT AND SEEK AMENDMENTS

Dear Senator Stern,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I write to inform you of our SUPPORT position for your measure SB 1472, which would create new crimes of vehicular manslaughter when an individual is speeding and driving recklessly. However, we encourage you to amend the bill to increase the penalties for these crimes.

Last year, the United States Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration issued findings showing that while Americans drove less in 2020 due to the pandemic, an estimated 39,000 people died in motor vehicle traffic crashes, the largest number of fatalities since 2007. This number represents an increase of about 7.2 percent compared to the 36,096 fatalities reported in 2019.

According to the LA Times in 2019, there have been 179 deaths in Los Angeles County where illegal speed contests were suspected as the cause of the accident since 2009. The deadliest year on record was 2007, with 18 fatal crashes. From January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2017, there were a total of 38 fatalities where illegal speed contests were implicated in the cause of death. Overall, 47 percent of fatalities are the suspected racer, 27 percent are the passenger, 14 percent are an uninvolved motorist, 6 percent are pedestrians, and 5 percent are spectators.

In 2019, the City of Beverly Hills analyzed how incidents of reckless driving and side show incidents involving vehicles could be reduced. Due to state law, the City was only able to adopt an

ordinance penalizing spectators at illegal speed contests and side show incidents. Even with the adoption of this ordinance, our City still experiences several reckless driving incidents a year, placing our community members at great risk.

SB 1472 would curb dangerous driving activity by increasing the penalties for repeated reckless driving offenses within a three-year probationary period, including suspension of license, increased fines, and even the possibility of jail or prison time; the bill creates meaningful deterrents for these crimes.

SB 1472 provides law enforcement an additional tool to deter individuals from engaging in all forms and activities related to illegal street racing. For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills is pleased to SUPPORT your SB 1472 but encourage you raise the penalties in this measure. Thank you for authoring this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lili Bosse".

Lili Bosse

Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

Cc: The Honorable Ben Allen, Senator, 26th District  
The Honorable Richard Bloom, Assemblymember, 50th District  
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange