

March 19, 2024

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

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"The Spanish Village by the Sea" The Honorable Avelino Valencia State Capitol P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0068

RE: Support for Assembly Bill 2574 - Alcoholism or Drug Abuse Recovery or Treatment Facilities

The City of San Clemente supports Assembly Bill 2574 to amend Section 11834.23 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to alcohol and drug programs.

Existing law states that it is the policy of the state that each county and city shall permit and encourage the development of sufficient numbers and types of alcoholism or drug abuse recovery or treatment facilities as are adequate with local need. Existing law requires an alcoholism or drug abuse recovery or treatment facility that serves 6 or fewer persons to be considered a residential use of property for the purposes of local regulations, regardless of whether or not unrelated persons are living together.

AB 2574 would exempt an unlicensed home for persons recovering from alcoholism or drug abuse in a neighborhood zoned for residential use from being considered a residential use of property when specified evidence demonstrates that the facility is an integral part of a licensed drug treatment facility located elsewhere.

In recent months San Clemente has seen an influx of Sober Living Homes. On one street alone three properties have been bought by the same proprietor with the intention of transforming these single family residential homes into SLHs. The owner of these properties has made it clear that he has no intention of living in these properties and plans to operate them as a for-profit business. At a minimum, this bill will stop opportunistic businesses from encroaching on the quality of life of San Clemente residents without going through the regulatory process to obtain a license.

For these reasons, the City of San Clemente supports AB 2574.

Sincerely,

Victor Cabral Mayor