



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE ▪ BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Julian A. Gold, M.D., Mayor

July 12, 2023

The Honorable Reginald Jones-Sawyer
Chair, Assembly Committee on Public Safety
State Capitol, Room 126
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 50 (Bradford) Vehicles: enforcement
City of Beverly Hills – OPPOSE

Dear Chair Jones-Sawyer:

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I write in respectful OPPOSITION to SB 50 (Bradford), which proposes to limit the scope of law enforcement's authority to initiate traffic stops for specified low-level infractions. This bill directly contradicts the principles outlined in our city's legislative platform, especially our commitment to safeguarding the safety, health, and well-being of our residents.

Our City's legislative platform recognizes the critical role of law enforcement in ensuring public safety, which includes conducting traffic stops for violations that could potentially pose significant safety risks. For instance, stopping a vehicle with malfunctioning headlights not only allows for enforcement of existing laws but also highlights the safety hazard for the driver, other motorists, and pedestrians. However, SB 50 would impede police officers' ability to proactively address such safety issues, which would pose a threat to both the drivers committing infractions as well as the wider community, subsequently resulting in increased risk to public safety.

Moreover, while we understand the bill's intent to minimize potentially unnecessary interactions between law enforcement and the public, we believe there are other methods to accomplish this goal without compromising public safety. Education campaigns, community outreach, and ongoing training for law enforcement officers in implicit bias and fair and impartial policing could also address these concerns.

In a state as diverse as California, it is crucial for local governments to have the flexibility to meet their unique community needs. Limiting the ability of local police officers to enforce certain traffic laws can undermine this local autonomy and ultimately impair public safety. It is for these reasons that the City of Beverly Hills must respectfully oppose SB 50 (Bradford).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julian A. Gold". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Julian A. Gold, M.D.
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: The Honorable Ben Allen, Senator 24th District
The Honorable Rick Zbur, Assemblymember, 51st District
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange