



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE • BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Lili Bosse, Mayor

August 18, 2022

The Honorable Blanca Rubio
Assemblymember, 48th District
1021 O Street, Room 5140
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2449 (Blanca Rubio) Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences
City of Beverly Hills – **SUPPORT IF AMENDED**

Dear Assemblymember Rubio,

The City of Beverly Hills has adopted a **SUPPORT IF AMENDED** position on AB 2449, your measure to provide ongoing authorization, through January 1, 2026, for remote participation by members of a local agency legislative body, and to provide flexibility for local agencies to utilize teleconference options. AB 2449 also requires that the location of the in-person meeting be clearly identified on the agenda, be open to the public, and take place at a location that is within the boundaries of the local agency's jurisdiction.

We respectfully request that this measure be amended to address the language in subdivision (h) that requires a legislative body to conduct meetings subject to the Brown Act consistent with applicable state and federal civil rights, language access, and other nondiscrimination laws. The League of California Cities has raised concerns that there is no generally applicable 'language access' laws for Brown Act meetings, and this reference would likely generate confusion and potential litigation.

Under AB 361 (Robert Rivas, Statutes of 2021) and Executive Orders issued by Governor Newsom, local agencies were able to utilize remote participation for elected officials and for the public during the COVID-19 public health crisis. Those measures have allowed local agencies to continue to conduct the public's business in a safe manner.

AB 2449 builds off the increased flexibility in AB 361 and modernizes the Brown Act by allowing local

elected officials to participate remotely without having to share the address of their whereabouts. Under existing law, members of the public must be allowed to participate in the meeting from the same location as that individual. This poses serious public safety concerns and discourages remote meetings. For these reasons, we have adopted a SUPPORT IF AMENDED position on AB 2449.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lili Bosse", written in a cursive style.

Lili Bosse,
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: Chair and Members, Senate Committee on Appropriations
The Honorable Ben Allen, Senator 26th District
The Honorable Richard Bloom, Assemblymember, 50th District
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange