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May 15, 2019

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez  
Chair, Assembly Committee on Appropriations  
State Capitol Building, Room 5050  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1356 (Ting) Cannabis: Local Jurisdiction: Retail Commercial Cannabis Activity  
Notice of OPPOSITION (as Amended 4/30/19)**

Dear Assemblymember Gonzalez:

The City of Corona respectfully opposes AB 1356 (Ting). Under this bill, if more than 50 percent of the voters of a local jurisdiction voted in favor of Proposition 64, these local jurisdictions would be required to issue a minimum number of licenses authorizing retail cannabis activity within that jurisdiction. More specifically, the bill requires these cities to issue a minimum of one retail cannabis license for every four liquor licenses, or one retail cannabis license for every 10,000 residents.

Existing law, under both the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MAUCRSA) and Proposition 64, states that local jurisdictions have the ability to adopt and enforce local ordinances to regulate cannabis businesses. By removing local governments' ability to regulate brick and mortar retail cannabis shops, AB 1356 undermines the very foundation of local control and thereby negates the primary purpose of California's established dual licensing structure. The Corona City Council has expressed its desire to begin to regulate cannabis businesses, therefore, we are particularly sensitive towards the State specifically dictating how many retail shops we must then allow.

The measure's mandated 1-to-4 ratio does not substantially demonstrate a nexus between a city's regulation of citizens' access to retail commercial cannabis and the number of liquor establishments within a community. By requiring such a ratio, AB 1356 proposes an arbitrary land use standard for individual cities and counties based on the results of a statewide ballot measure.

In seeking to eliminate locals' authority to ban or regulate retail commercial cannabis businesses, AB 1356 would ultimately strip cities and counties of the ability to decide what is appropriate for their communities—a premise that directly contravenes the framework understood by the voters when approving Proposition 64.

For these reasons, the City of Corona opposes AB 1356.

Sincerely,

Jason Scott  
Mayor  
City of Corona

cc: Senator Richard Roth, Senate District 31  
Assembly Member Sabrina Cervantes, District 60  
Erin Sasse, Regional Public Affairs Manager, Riverside County [esasse@cacities.org](mailto:esasse@cacities.org)  
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