



OFFICE OF: Mayor

Phone: 951-736-2371
Fax: 951-736-2493

400 S. Vicentia Ave. P.O. Box 940, Corona, California 92878-0940
City Hall Online All The Time – <http://www.CoronaCA.gov>

May 29, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Skinner
Chair, Senate Public Safety
California State Capitol, Room 2031
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 516 (Chiu) Authority to Remove Vehicles.
Notice of Opposition

Dear Senator Skinner,

The City of Corona is **Opposed** to AB 516 (Chiu), a measure that would eliminate the ability for our city to adequately enforce state and local vehicle violations.

AB 516 would eliminate enforcement tools to address motorists who disregard basic laws designed to benefit our entire community. Specifically, the measure would eliminate the ability for the City of Corona to:

- Maintain local control of enforcement of vehicles parked or abandoned on the street which have exceeded the statutory time.
- “Immobilize,” or place a boot on a vehicle, for motorists who have five or more unpaid parking tickets.
- Remove vehicles with expired registration that are operating illegally; and
- Remove vehicles in violation of parking time restrictions.

The authority to remove vehicles that are operating unlawfully for failing to register within six months is an essential enforcement tool for violation of state and local laws aimed at requiring insurance, keeping our air clean, our storm drains free of pollution, and our streets safe. Motorists that allow their vehicle registration to expire for more than 6 months are not only in gross violation of state law, but are rejecting their basic responsibility to pay for various programs and services collected with their registration.

It is key to note that the 72-hour parking enforcement notice is usually triggered by a complaint from a local resident or business when cars appear abandoned or haven't moved for an extended period of time. By the time our city responds and a notice is issued for the vehicle to move, more than 72 hours have typically elapsed. Compliance costs nothing and can simply involve moving a vehicle to a more acceptable location to avoid a tow. By the time a tow is actually enforced, a vehicle has likely remained unmoved for days and possibly weeks. By our residents calling the police department reference these vehicles, often times it is discovered that these are stolen vehicles that have been abandoned by the criminal. The police department is then able to recover these vehicles and return them to the owners. If these vehicles are not reported by residents because of this new law they will go unrecovered thus costing both the victim and the insurance companies money.

The approach in AB 516 rewards people who fail to pay their parking tickets, register their vehicles, or adhere to reasonable policies aimed at preventing abandonment and/or street storage of vehicles, regardless of income. Eliminating proportional consequences for these sorts of vehicle violations will exacerbate parking scarcity by creating an environment vulnerable for exploitation. This bill, coupled with efforts by the state aimed at eliminating local parking minimums, will create quality of life concerns across income demographics in California.

We would also like to point out that not having an enforcement and removal tool of vehicles parked or abandoned on the street has ancillary potential negative impacts related to the inability for a street sweeper to properly clean the gutters along City streets. If the gutters are continually blocked by cars that never move, then it will be very difficult for street sweepers to keep the gutters clean of debris and waste thereby allowing this material to be washed into the storm drains. An increase of waste and debris in the storm drains could lead to violations under the Clean Water Act. The National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) is the compliance and enforcement program of the Clean Water Act and street sweeping is one very effective tool to assist municipalities in meeting these compliance requirements.

For these reasons, the City of Corona **Opposes AB 516**.

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
Meg Desmond, League of California Cities, cityletters@cacities.org



OFFICE OF: Mayor

Phone: 951-736-2371
Fax: 951-736-2493

400 S. Vicentia Ave. P.O. Box 940, Corona, California 92878-0940
City Hall Online All The Time – <http://www.CoronaCA.gov>

May 29, 2019

The Honorable Jim Beall
Chair, Senate Transportation
California State Capitol, Room 2082
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 516 (Chiu) Authority to Remove Vehicles.
Notice of Opposition

Dear Senator Beall,

The City of Corona is **Opposed** to AB 516 (Chiu), a measure that would eliminate the ability for our city to adequately enforce state and local vehicle violations.

AB 516 would eliminate enforcement tools to address motorists who disregard basic laws designed to benefit our entire community. Specifically, the measure would eliminate the ability for the City of Corona to:

- Maintain local control of enforcement of vehicles parked or abandoned on the street which have exceeded the statutory time.
- “Immobilize,” or place a boot on a vehicle, for motorists who have five or more unpaid parking tickets.
- Remove vehicles with expired registration that are operating illegally; and
- Remove vehicles in violation of parking time restrictions.

The authority to remove vehicles that are operating unlawfully for failing to register within six months is an essential enforcement tool for violation of state and local laws aimed at requiring insurance, keeping our air clean, our storm drains free of pollution, and our streets safe. Motorists that allow their vehicle registration to expire for more than 6 months are not only in gross violation of state law, but are rejecting their basic responsibility to pay for various programs and services collected with their registration.

It is key to note that the 72-hour parking enforcement notice is usually triggered by a complaint from a local resident or business when cars appear abandoned or haven't moved for an extended period of time. By the time our city responds and a notice is issued for the vehicle to move, more than 72 hours have typically elapsed. Compliance costs nothing and can simply involve moving a vehicle to a more acceptable location to avoid a tow. By the time a tow is actually enforced, a vehicle has likely remained unmoved for days and possibly weeks. By our residents calling the police department reference these vehicles, often times it is discovered that these are stolen vehicles that have been abandoned by the criminal. The police department is then able to recover these vehicles and return them to the owners. If these vehicles are not reported by residents because of this new law they will go unrecovered thus costing both the victim and the insurance companies money.

The approach in AB 516 rewards people who fail to pay their parking tickets, register their vehicles, or adhere to reasonable policies aimed at preventing abandonment and/or street storage of vehicles,

The approach in AB 516 rewards people who fail to pay their parking tickets, register their vehicles, or adhere to reasonable policies aimed at preventing abandonment and/or street storage of vehicles, regardless of income. Eliminating proportional consequences for these sorts of vehicle violations will exacerbate parking scarcity by creating an environment vulnerable for exploitation. This bill, coupled with efforts by the state aimed at eliminating local parking minimums, will create quality of life concerns across income demographics in California.

We would also like to point out that not having an enforcement and removal tool of vehicles parked or abandoned on the street has ancillary potential negative impacts related to the inability for a street sweeper to properly clean the gutters along City streets. If the gutters are continually blocked by cars that never move, then it will be very difficult for street sweepers to keep the gutters clean of debris and waste thereby allowing this material to be washed into the storm drains. An increase of waste and debris in the storm drains could lead to violations under the Clean Water Act. The National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) is the compliance and enforcement program of the Clean Water Act and street sweeping is one very effective tool to assist municipalities in meeting these compliance requirements.

For these reasons, the City of Corona **Opposes AB 516.**

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
Meg Desmond, League of California Cities, cityletters@cacities.org