



Honorable Mayor and Members of the Hermosa Beach City Council

**APPROVE LETTER OF OPPOSITION UNLESS AMENDED FOR SENATE BILL 866
HOMELESS HOUSING, ASSISTANCE, AND PREVENTION PROGRAM: HOUSING
ELEMENT**

(Senior Management Analyst Sara Russo)

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends City Council approve a letter of opposition unless amended for Senate Bill 866 (**Attachment 1**).

Executive Summary:

The City of Hermosa Beach regularly expresses its support or opposition regarding legislation matters that would have an impact on the City. On April 6, 2026, the League of California Cities sent out an urgent email regarding an action alert for Senate Bill 866. Senate Bill 866 would add additional homeless reporting requirements to housing elements for those cities that do not currently qualify to receive direct access to state Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention funding. Staff presents the following item for consideration to provide a letter of opposition unless amended for Senate Bill 866 Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program: Housing Element.

Background:

Senate Bill 866 (SB 866) was introduced on January 5, 2026, by Senator Catherine Blakespear and proposes to address homelessness by establishing the “Emergency and Interim Shelter Capacity Act” that would address the ongoing homelessness crisis by facilitating the rapid development of emergency and interim shelter options.

On April 6, 2026, the League of California Cities notified cities to contact their legislator to oppose SB 866 unless amended because SB 866 requires all but fourteen (14) cities in the state to add extensive homelessness reporting requirements to their housing elements. The bill specifically targets cities that do not have direct access to state homelessness funding.

Since 2019, Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) has provided state funding to the 14 largest cities, all 58 counties, and 44 Continuums of Care — leaving the other 469 cities in California without direct state support. To receive funding, HHAP recipients must submit regional plans that include system performance metrics. SB 866

applies these same metrics as a new housing element requirement only for cities that do not receive HHAP funding.

Analysis:

SB 866, unless amended, would require the City to add homeless reporting requirements to the housing element. This would apply to Hermosa Beach because SB 866 only applies to cities that do not have access to direct state funding from the HHAP grant program. It also mandates reporting on metrics that the City lacks the ability to collect. Most of the information currently collected is through regional collaboration with the County of Los Angeles, hospitals, jails, and other City partners. Furthermore, the reporting required in SB 866 does not belong in a long-term housing planning document, that for a city like Hermosa Beach, is updated every eight years and would quickly become outdated and unresponsive to the evolving needs of unhoused residents.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Attachment:

Letter of Opposition Unless Amended for Senate Bill 866

Respectfully Submitted by: Sara Russo, Senior Management Analyst

Approved: Steve Napolitano, City Manager