



NORTH HOLLYWOOD NORTHEAST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

January 2022

Advocating on Senate Bill 2, Senate Bill 357, and Assembly Bill 118

Dear State Senate Majority Leader Hertzberg and Assemblymember Rivas,

The North Hollywood Northeast Neighborhood Council (NHNENC) supports Senate Bill 2, Senate Bill 357, and Assembly Bill 118. We write to you today advocating for these bills on behalf of the decertification of abusive police (SB 2), the decriminalization of sex loitering (SB 357), and the creation of the CRISES pilot program to fund community-based alternatives to policing (AB 118).

Senate Bill 2

California is one of only four states that has no process to decertify abusive cops. Decertification ensures those cops cannot be hired as police officers somewhere else. Over 200 other professions in California have licenses that can be revoked if they violate their licensing rules. California gives police officers a license to kill without the ability to revoke it if they abuse their authority.

SB 2 by Senator Steve Bradford will improve community safety by keeping officers who commit misconduct off the streets by:

- Establishing a statewide process to automatically decertify officers who have been fired for serious misconduct such as, but not limited to, excessive force, sexual misconduct and dishonesty. For the aforementioned misconduct, the Commission on Peace Officer

Standards and Training (POST) will also be able to retroactively revoke an officer's certificate.

- Creating a new accountability division within POST that will independently investigate allegations of serious misconduct of officers who resign before they are fired.
- Creates a civilian-led advisory board that will review the investigations of the accountability division and make recommendations to POST as to whether an officer should be decertified. The advisory board will be composed for seven public members and two law enforcement representatives.
- Requiring local law enforcement to report fired officers to the state and ensure that during the hiring process California law enforcement agencies contact the state to find out why an officer left their previous positions.
- Adding officers who are decertified to the National Decertification Index (NDI), a national database that tracks decertified officers across state lines.

The NHNENC recognizes the victory of SB 2 in both houses of the California State Legislature and it's approval by Governor Newsom. We call that you persevere in this battle and journey in supporting police decertification when necessary.

Senate Bill 357

Everyone has a right to feel safe in their communities. California's law that criminalizes loitering with intent to commit prostitution gives law enforcement a tool to harass and discriminate against Black and trans communities, particularly women of color. The Safer Streets for All Act will take away this outdated and subjective Penal Code section 653.22 which has for too long allowed law enforcement to criminalize and harass someone based on the color of their skin, their gender, or how they choose to make a living.

SB 357 (Wiener) will repeal current California law that has allowed for targeted, discriminatory policing of communities of color and enable people who have been convicted using this subjective law to clear their names. The overbroad interpretation and enforcement of this law has led to discriminatory stops and disproportionate arrest rates of already targeted communities for loitering with the intent to commit prostitution.

In Los Angeles County, these disparities paint a stark picture of how this racist, discriminatory code is impacting our most marginalized communities: In Los Angeles, Black adults make up over half of the people arrested under this provision, even though they are only 8.9% of the city's population.

The NHNENC recognizes the victory in the passage of SB 357 in the State Assembly, and calls on the support of the State Senate to prioritize its passage as well. When signed by Governor

Newsom, we expect the continued advocacy and support for this bill to effectively pan out, with the support of Assemblymember Rivas' and State Senate Majority Leader Hertzberg's offices.

Assembly Bill 118

The NHNENC supports initiatives that fund alternatives to police, and AB 118 is one of them. With the passing of AB 118 in both the Assembly and the State Senate, our Council calls on the continued effort and advocacy necessary for this bill to be effective. In a time of crisis, CA has the opportunity to invest in community-led interventions proven more effective in impact and cost than law enforcement response.

Across CA, community organizations have been effectively responding to emergency situations. Now more than ever, it is time we make investments to scale these cost-saving alternatives to police response and ensure communities emerge more resilient.

The C.R.I.S.E.S. Act (Kamlager) pilot grant program will provide stability, safety, and culturally informed and appropriate responses to immediate emergency situations such as a mental health crisis, people experiencing homelessness, intimate partner violence, and natural disasters. These organizations will also aid in the follow-up to those emergencies by involving community organizations with a deeper knowledge and training in responding to those situations.

The NHNENC recognizes the victory of AB 118 in both houses of the California State Legislature and it's approval by Governor Newsom. We call that you persevere in this battle and journey in supporting the C.R.I.S.E.S Grant Pilot Program, and effectively roll out alternatives to police.

Listed Recipients:

Luz Rivas, Assembly Member District 39
Mary Jerejian, Field Deputy District 39
Arturo Garcia-Mendoza, District Director
Maribel Becerra, Officer Manager
Julissa Hernandez, Field Representative
Miguel Morales, Field Representative
Salvador Manriquez, Field Representative
Jessica Guzman, Caseworker

Robert M. Hertzberg, State Senate Majority Leader, District 18
Barri Worth Girvan, Deputy Chief of Staff, District 18
Eveline Bravo-Ayala, Deputy District Director, District 18
Hannah Kelley, District Representative, District 18

Edwin Amaya, District Representative, District 18
Ricky Angel, District Representative, District 18
Steve Fukushima, District Representative, District 18
Mercedes Ortiz, District Representative, District 18

Sincerely,
North Hollywood Northeast Neighborhood Council

X 
Zaid Diaz-Arias
Board Secretary
North Hollywood Northeast Neighborhood Council

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Date of Board Vote: 01/12/2022

Board Vote Count: Aye 10 Nay 0 Abstain 0

Motion Status: Passed X Failed _____ Other _____