



Mayor Kevin McKeown
Mayor Pro Tempore Tony Vazquez

Councilmembers
Gleam Davis
Sue Himmelrich
Pam O'Connor
Terry O'Day
Ted Winterer

September 11, 2015

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, Office of the Governor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1461 (Gonzalez) – Voter registration
City of Santa Monica – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Brown,

On behalf of the City of Santa Monica, I write to you to respectfully request that you **SIGN AB 1461 (Gonzalez)** when this bill comes before your desk. This bill would provide that everyone who has a driver's license or state identification card and can be identified as eligible to register to vote would be automatically registered to vote, unless that person opts out.

Currently, no state proactively registers eligible individuals to vote—instead, almost every state puts the impetus on individuals to register themselves to vote. North Dakota, which is the only state without voter registration, is the exception. Earlier this year, the Governor of Oregon signed legislation requiring state elections officials to automatically register people to vote if the state Department of Transportation has information indicating that those people are eligible to do so. Individuals will have the option to opt out of being registered. The City believes that California should be a leader on this issue, and supports efforts to enhance and increase voting opportunities for eligible voters.

For these reasons, the City of Santa Monica is pleased to support this legislation and again, respectfully requests that you **SIGN AB 1461 (Gonzalez)** when this bill comes before your desk. Thank you for your consideration of this important measure.

Sincerely,

Kevin McKeown
Mayor

cc: The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez, 80th Assembly District
The Honorable Ben Allen, 26th Senate District
The Honorable Richard Bloom, 50th Assembly District
Josh Shaw, Partner, Shaw / Yoder / Antwih, Inc.